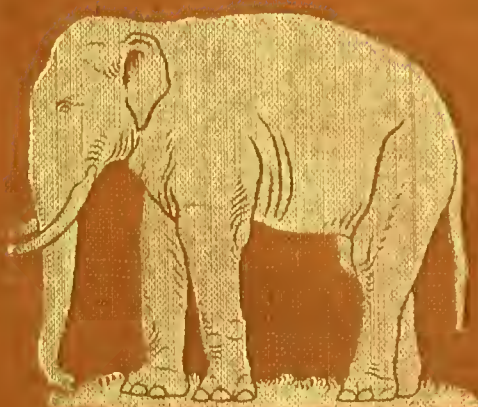


THE ORIENTAL CLUB  
AND HANOVER SQUARE



ALEXANDER F. BAILLIE

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LONDON  
TOPOGRAPHY



















THE ORIENTAL CLUB  
AND  
HANOVER SQUARE









*Major General Sir John Malcolm, G.C.B.*

THE ORIENTAL CLUB AND  
HANOVER SQUARE. By  
ALEXANDER F. BAILLIE, F.R.G.S.,  
Author of 'A Paraguayan Treasure'

WITH PHOTOGRAVURE PORTRAITS  
AND OTHER ILLUSTRATIONS

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BY HIS OBEDIENT SERVANT

THE AUTHOR

LONDON: *Sept.* 14. 1901



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# THE ORIENTAL CLUB

## CHAPTER I

### OUR SQUARE

QUEEN ELIZABETH and James I. were both opposed to the extension of London, and issued decrees forbidding the erection of new buildings 'where none had before existed in the memory of man.' It was assumed that the enlargement of the city was calculated to encourage the increase of the plague; create a trouble in governing such multitudes; a dearth of victuals; a multiplying of beggars, and many other evils; and it was added that lack of air, lack of room to walk and shoot, &c., arose out of too crowded a city. The consequence was that for the greater part of a century the boundaries of the metropolis remained unaltered, and were defined on the north and west by the two thoroughfares now called Holborn and the Charing Cross Road.

This latter was crossed in the middle of the reign of Charles II., when St. James's Square was built, and Soho Square followed shortly afterwards, and thenceforward the advance was rapid. At the end of the seventeenth century the western boundary had been pushed forward to our

modern Regent Street, and the northern line had been prolonged to Oxford Circus. Some new streets had also been created on the ten-acre field behind Burlington House, and Cork Street, Burlington Street, and others had sprung up behind the present home of the Royal Academy of Arts. Sir Thomas Bond, Comptroller of the Household of the Queen-Mother (Henrietta Maria, widow of Charles I.), purchased, about 1683, the gardens of Lord Clarendon's house in Piccadilly, and erected upon them Dover Street, Albemarle Street, and Old Bond Street, named after himself. But some years elapsed before any enterprising builder took in hand the large properties having frontages on both sides of Oxford Street, or, as it was then called, the Tyburn Road.

The place had an evil reputation. Even in the fifteenth century the little church of St. John the Evangelist, that stood on the brook side between the two branches of Mary-lebone Lane, had been so frequently robbed that at length it was pulled down, and a new church was built higher up the stream, and called St. Mary-le-Bourne. About 1413 the gallows was brought from Smithfield and erected at St. Giles's Pound, close to Tottenham Court Road, and there it remained until the end of the reign of Queen Elizabeth. Thence by degrees it pursued its ignoble course more to the westward, carrying with it a vast crowd of the riffraff from the slums of St. Giles's and Soho, here and there interspersed with gallants from the Court and with dainty ladies of the upper classes, all of them intent upon witnessing the death-throes of batches of miserable and wretched sinners, many of whom were led to execution for crimes that are now happily regarded as comparatively venial.

The action taken by John Holles, Duke of Newcastle, was the first step towards abating this long-endured nuisance and improving the character of the neighbourhood.

In 1708 he purchased the Manor of Tyburn, and commenced to build on the frontage, which extended from Marylebone Lane to Adam and Eve Yard. It stretched northwards to the Marylebone Road, and was bounded on the east by Cleveland Street, Union Street, and Wells Street; and on the west by Nottingham Place, High Street, and Marylebone Lane. This important property is now generally known as the Portland Estate; but the lower half, in the course of time, was built over by Robert Harley, first Earl of Oxford, who married the Lady Henrietta Cavendish Holles, only daughter and heiress of the Duke of Newcastle, and by Edward his son, the second Earl, whose daughter and heiress, Margaret, married William Bentinck, second Duke of Portland.

Oxford Street was so named in 1729 after the second Earl, and almost all the streets, squares, and places on the western part of the estate derive their names from the Holles and Harley families, as for example Holles, Harley, Henrietta, Mortimer, and Margaret Streets; while the thoroughfares on the eastern portion take their names from the Bentinck family and their titles, among which may be mentioned Portland Street and Place, Bentinck Street, Bolsover Street, &c.

The adjoining property to the Tyburn Manor was that of the Corporation of London, called the City Mead Estate. It has a frontage on both sides of Oxford Street and is of a triangular form, with the apex at the junction of New Bond Street and Conduit Street. Stratford Place now occupies the

site of the Lord Mayor's banqueting house, which fell into a state of dilapidation when buildings took the place of waste lands and open fields, and hunting was no longer possible, and it was removed in 1737.

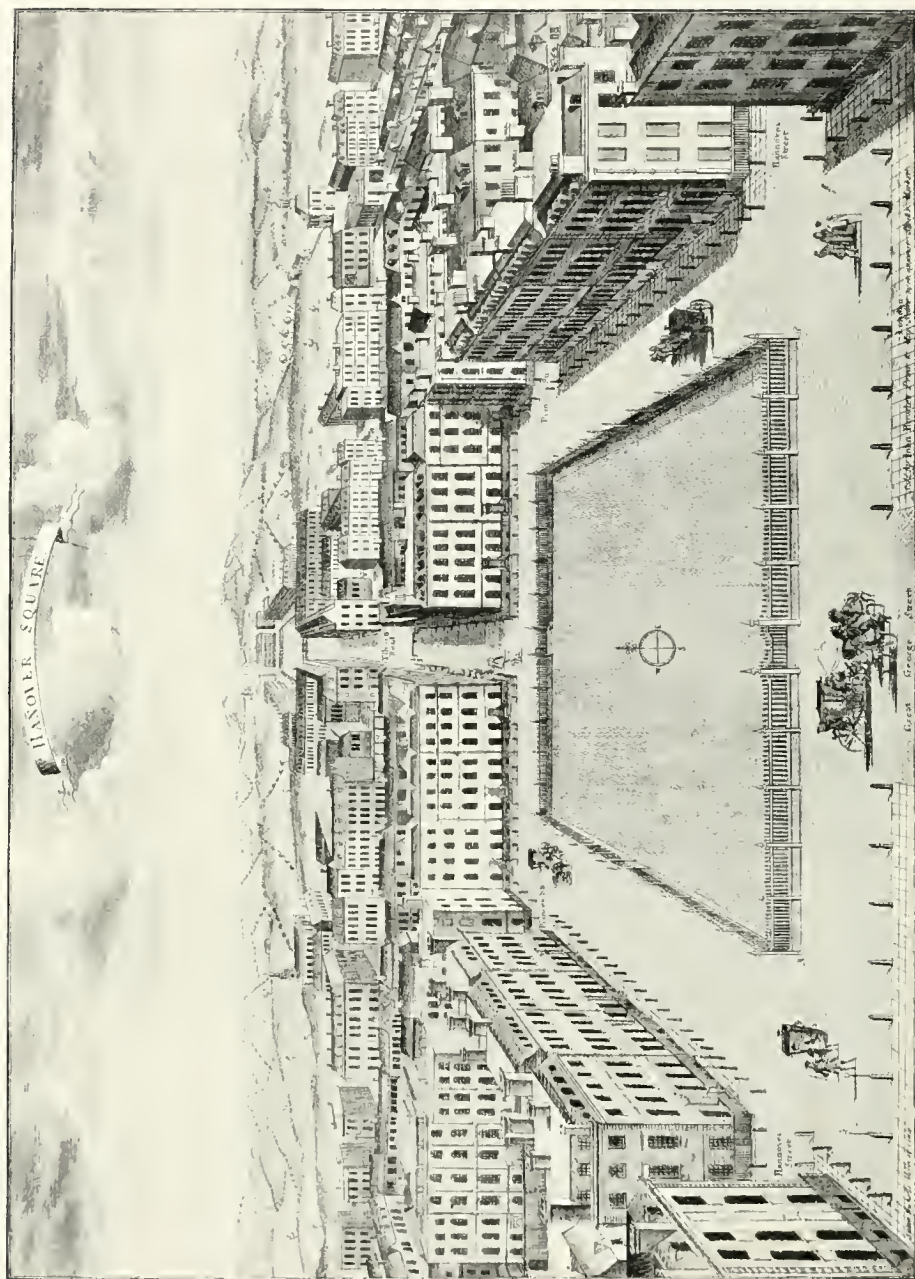
The river Tyburn crossed Oxford Street just in this neighbourhood. Its course has been very carefully traced, and an admirable account of its windings is to be found in the 'Transactions of the London and Middlesex Archæological Society,'<sup>1</sup> from which it appears that it touched the southern side at the top of Davies Street, where the Bond Street Station of the Central London Railway now stands; and Sir Benjamin Baker, K.C.M.G., chief engineer of that line, as of many others of the most important enterprises of our time, states that in sinking the shafts some old piles were met with which probably formed part of the bridge that spanned the Tyburn Road.

The completion of New Bond Street in 1716 afforded the first means of direct communication between Piccadilly and Oxford Street, and very shortly after it had become an inhabited and fashionable thoroughfare new districts were opened up on either side of the latter great highway. The large property on the west of Bond Street came into the possession of the Grosvenor family through the marriage of Sir Thomas of that name, a Baronet of Cheshire, with Miss Mary Davies, heiress of an estate which extended from Oxford Street to Belgravia, and included the street named after her, together with Farm Street, Hay Hill, and Hay Mews, and many others. Grosvenor Square was commenced about 1716, and in 1718 the builders took in hand the

<sup>1</sup> Vol. vi. 1890.







## HANOVER SQUARE

*From a print engraved by Stilton Nicholls, published in 1720, in the possession of Sir Ernest Clarke*



Conduit Mead Estate and neighbouring district to the east of Bond Street.

Hanover Square was begun in that year, and John Strype, the ecclesiastical historian, who may have been an eye-witness of the actual erection of houses on the area that it now covers, for he did not die until 1737, writes to this effect: 'One is taken by my Lord Cowper, late Lord High Chancellor of England, and it is reported that the common place of execution of malefactors at Tyburn shall be appointed elsewhere, as somewhere near Kingsland, for the removing any inconvenience or annoyance that might thereby be occasioned to that Square, or the houses thereabouts.' And a more modern writer, Mr. Augustus Hare, in his interesting work, 'Walks in London,' asserts that 'forty-five years later'—that is to say, from the time the building was commenced—'the place for executions was removed from Tyburn, lest the inhabitants of the new Square should be annoyed by them.'

There has been, and there still exists, a good deal of misconception regarding the actual position of 'Tyburn,' which has probably arisen through that name having been generally applied to the several different places at which the gallows have been erected during a lengthened period. Mr. Heneage Jesse<sup>1</sup> states that 'the Gallows at Tyburn stood nearly at the end of Park Lane, and the spot appears to have been used as a place of execution as early as the middle of the twelfth century;' and Mr. H. B. Wheatley endorses this statement,<sup>2</sup> and adds, on the authority of Roger de Wendover, that William Fitzosbert, or Longbeard, was executed there in the year 1196.

<sup>1</sup> *London: Its Celebrated Characters and Remarkable Places.*

<sup>2</sup> *Round about Piccadilly.*

A still greater writer, Dr. Lingard, the celebrated Roman Catholic historian, informs us that Fitzosbert was seized at the church of St. Mary-le-Bow, Cheapside, where he had sought refuge, hastily tried and condemned, dragged at the tail of a horse to 'The Elms,' at Tyburn, and hanged in chains, with nine of his followers. By the same author we are told that the great Scottish patriot and warrior, Sir William Wallace, was condemned to death in 1305, and sentenced to be drawn to 'The Elms,' at Tyburn; and further, that in 1330, a quarter of a century later, Roger Mortimer, Earl of March, 'was executed at *Tyburn*, the first, as it is said, who honoured with his death that celebrated spot.'

The very precision of Dr. Lingard's statements has led to serious inaccuracies on the part of those students of the history of London who have adopted them as facts. Several have been induced to allocate 'The Elms,' and Mr. Loftie defines the position thus: 'It is at least certain that at the end of the fourteenth century Tyburn already bore an evil reputation—a reputation not, we may be sure, improved when "gentle Mortimer" and his companions were brought for execution to the bleak heath, on the hill beyond, in 1330;' and Mr. Hare specifies the actual spot on which the execution took place. '*Elms Lane*, in Bayswater,' he writes, 'commemorates the Elms, where Holinshed says that Roger Mortimer was drawn and hanged, "at the Elms, now Tilbourne."' There is, however, little or no basis for assuming that the handsome residences which now cover Bayswater Hill are built on the site of a mediæval gallows, for the position of 'The Elms' is clearly defined in several of the death sentences passed in the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries, and is very

distant from the position designated by Mr. Hare. *The Elms, at Smithfield*, so called, according to John Stow, the celebrated antiquarian of the Elizabethan age, 'that there grew there many elm trees,' was in fact the ordinary place of execution until the beginning of the fifteenth century; and here it was that Fitzosbert was hanged with his followers, for the word 'Tyburn' does not exist in the original authorities whom Dr. Lingard quotes, but has been interpolated by him. Here it was that Sir William Wallace met his death, for the sentence passed by Sir Geoffrey Segrave, in the Great Hall of Westminster, on August 23, 1305, distinctly ordains that 'You shall be carried from Westminster to the Tower, and from the Tower to Aldgate, and so through the City to the Elms at *Smithfield*, and you shall there be hanged,' &c.

Roger Mortimer undoubtedly suffered death at the same place, and the statement already quoted of Holinshed is simply an affirmation of that fact. Raphael Holinshed, or Holingshead, published his 'Chronicles' in 1577, when the place of execution had been long removed from the Elms at Smithfield to 'Tyburn,' at the junction of the Tyburn Road with High Street, St. Giles's, and he states that Roger Mortimer was drawn and hanged at 'The Elms' (the gallows), which place is *now*—that is to say, at the time of his writing—at 'Tilbourne.'

Here the gallows must have been frequently erected for many years, for in 1586 Anthony Babington and six companions were drawn on hurdles from the Tower to this spot, and executed with such terrible barbarities that her excellent Grace, Queen Elizabeth, was greatly shocked, and gave instructions that another batch of criminals condemned to die

on the following day should be hanged until they were dead before being mutilated.

There is considerable difficulty in fixing the different resting-places of the gallows after they had once been erected at St. Giles's, because death sentences for many years after that time ordained that the condemned should be executed at 'Tyburn,' without any closer specification of the locality; but it seems probable that, as the population increased, they were removed by degrees to the westward, and that when the Duke of Newcastle commenced building on his Oxford Street frontage they were driven beyond the limits of the Tyburn estate.

It is supposed that for about fifty years after the commencement of building on the Harley, or Portland estate, unoccupied ground between Quebec Street and Orchard Street was used as the place of execution, and, if so, the statement of Mr. Hare that forty-five years after the commencement of Hanover Square that place was removed from the spot then called 'Tyburn' is fully justified; and, moreover, it accords with a strong presumption that the first scaffold erected at the last 'Tyburn,' situated near Connaught Place<sup>1</sup> and the Edgware Road, was that on which Lord Ferrers was executed in 1760, which was intended to be a permanent institution, and was for the first time furnished with a 'drop.'

In a plan of the Portman Estate of the year 1745 there is no sign of the 'Gallows,' but just within the railing of Hyde Park, at Tyburn Turnpike, there is a spot marked with

<sup>1</sup> No. 2 was the residence of the late Lord Randolph Churchill during his brief but brilliant career as a Cabinet Minister, and it does not appear to have been occupied since he left it.

a brief statement which is significant of the stern discipline and severe punishments that were inflicted upon the troops under the command of the Duke of Cumberland even in times of peace. The spot is thus inscribed: '*Where soldiers are shot!*'

But while endeavouring to controvert the generally received opinions that the highly respectable neighbourhood of Bayswater was at one time polluted by the erection of a scaffold, and that 'Tyburn,' at the northern end of Park Lane, was the place of public executions for some centuries, it would not be safe to state that the penalty of hanging was never enforced in this neighbourhood in very early times.

In 1554 Sir Thomas Wyatt was decapitated on Tower Hill, and his head was set up on a pole on Hay Hill, near Berkeley Square. Around this ghastly object three of his accomplices in rebellion were hanged in chains. This was in accordance with a not unusual proceeding to execute a criminal on the scene of his crime, and, as the insurgents under Wyatt had been defeated on Hay Hill, three of their leaders were brought to that spot to expiate their act of rebellion against the Crown.

'Our Square' was named after the House of Hanover, the first representative of which, King George Lewis, ascended the throne in 1714. He was a foreigner by birth and in language, and but very distantly connected with the sovereigns who preceded him, for he was only the son of a granddaughter of James I., and yet his accession has been commemorated in the nomenclature of places and streets and squares, and at least two statues were erected in his honour. George Street, Prince's Street, St. George's Church, and



Hanover Street, all suddenly sprang into existence, and builders and speculators seemed just as desirous of commemorating the advent of the House of Hanover as they had been of placing on record the restoration of the Stuarts. William III. was also a foreigner, who was raised to the throne at a more critical juncture in our history than that occasioned by the death of Queen Anne, and was married to a gentle and amiable English princess, and yet it does not appear that one single street or square was named after Queen Mary; and the only records of William as *King* are to be found in the statue erected in his honour within the precincts of the Bank of England, and in another which stands somewhat inappropriately in St. James's Square, in the very centre of a district that came into being during the latter years of a dynasty whose rule he demolished. It is true that we have a *Nassau* Street and several *Orange* Streets, but they are only connected with William in his capacity of head of those principalities; and although the West End was considerably extended during their joint reigns, and the names of their followers and courtiers in several quarters remind us still of the Dutch invasion, yet we have no *William* Street or *Mary* Street that can be traced to their epoch.

But the title of the Electorate, occasionally intermingled with those of Brunswick and Guelph, was very widely spread during the reigns of the five kings of that House, and in every quarter of the West End a street or terrace will be found with one or other of these names. When their Majesties in course of time had passed away, and a young lady occupied their place, the names of dynasties, and principalities, and families were all abandoned, and that of our late gracious Queen was

adopted by the builders of that vast London that was created during her long and glorious reign.

It has been frequently stated that in the first instance it was intended to call our Square *Oxford* Square, but that is an error. Cavendish Square, which was commenced about the same time, was originally called Oxford Square, after Robert the first Earl, who was then living; and obviously it would not have been in accordance with the etiquette, even of builders and speculators, to have annexed to property on the southern side of Oxford Street the title of a landholder on the northern side.

Styrie the historian mentions, as already stated, that Lord Cowper was one of the earliest occupants of a house in the Square, but probably he refers to the whole area then being built over, for the Lord High Chancellor addressed from his house in George Street (No. 13 on the west side), on October 3, 1723, the last letter that he ever wrote to his Countess, who was then at Colegreen, Hertfordshire, where he proceeded a day or two afterwards, and where he died on the 10th of the same month. His son, the second Earl, continued to live in George Street, where he possessed a valuable collection of pictures. Peter Cunningham gives a list of noblemen and gentlemen who are stated, on the authority of the rate-books of St. Martin's, to have been the proprietors of houses very shortly after the Square was built, but many of his nominees do not appear to have actually resided in them. It is, however, certain that Sir Theodore Janssen was one of the first occupants, and that his tenancy was very short.

Born in France, he settled in England with about 20,000*l.*, which in a few years had increased to 300,000*l.* He was

naturalized in 1685, knighted by William III., and created a baronet by Queen Anne. He was a Director of the South Sea Company, which exploded in 1720, and, in addition to some 50,000*l.* of his own money that he has been stated to have lost, he was forced to disgorge about a quarter of a million to meet the liabilities of that unfortunate business. His house in Hanover Square was sold, and also the Manor of Wimbledon, which was purchased for 15,000*l.* by Sarah Duchess of Marlborough. Sir Theodore died in 1748, and was succeeded by a son, Sir Stephen Theodore Janssen, Baronet, who became Lord Mayor of London. Another house occupied even before that of Sir Theodore Janssen was No. 21, formerly called Downshire House, on the site of which is built a branch of the London and County Bank. Here Viscount Hillsborough came to reside in 1718, and his son, who became first Marquis of Downshire, was born in that year. Lady Mary Amelia Hill, daughter of this Marquis, was married in 1773 to James, sixth Earl of Salisbury (afterwards promoted to a Marquise), and was unfortunately burned to death, with a wing of Hatfield House, in 1835. It was still in the occupation of the second Marquis of Salisbury in 1830, when the third to hold the title, the present Prime Minister, was born at Hatfield. It is stated<sup>1</sup> that Buonaparte's Chancellor, Talleyrand de Périgord, Prince of Benevento, lived here in 1835, but at that time he was in this country as Ambassador of Louis Philippe, and in all probability maintained the dignity of his position at the house of the Embassy, No. 50 Portland Place. He was then very old, being upwards of eighty years of age, and he died in 1838, shortly after his return to Paris. Another distinguished

<sup>1</sup> Thornbury, *Old and New London*.





No. 17

No. 16

HANOVER SQUARE



French nobleman was, however, for some time a resident in the Square. This was François, Duc de la Rochefoucauld-Liancourt, Grand Master of the Wardrobe to Louis XV. and Louis XVI. He came to England on the downfall of the Monarchy, and, after a stay of about eighteen months in this country, he travelled through the United States of America. It is to his credit that through his influence vaccination was introduced into France. He died in 1827.

Henry, second Viscount Palmerston, father of the well-known Minister, lived at 22, at the corner of Brook Street, opposite to the Bank. In 1783 he married Mary Mee, daughter of Benjamin Mee, a director of the Bank of England, and as they were both fond of society, and gave frequent assemblies at their house, they kept the Square very much alive. He died in this house in 1802. Very shortly afterwards, Frederick William, Duke of Brunswick, brother of the persecuted Queen Caroline, came to reside in the same house with his Duchess. He had raised a regiment of Volunteers in Bohemia to assist in opposing the onward march of Buonaparte, but, being unable to make any stand against the French invasion, he brought his regiment to England, where it was taken into our national service. This was 'Brunswick's fated Chieftain,' immortalized by Byron in 'Childe Harold's Pilgrimage.'

He rushed into the field, and foremost fighting fell.

He met his death gallantly at the head of 'the brave Brunswickers' on June 16, 1815, two days before the decisive battle of Waterloo.

A large house has recently been removed that probably gave a notoriety to the Square to which it would not otherwise have attained, for until very recent times bars and gates cut

off all access to it by carriage from Oxford Street, and few people passed through it, except when on business intent with some of the inhabitants. This house was No. 4, at the north-west corner of Hanover Street, and for many years was known as the Hanover Square Rooms, or the Queen's Antient Concert Rooms.

The 'Daily Telegraph' of September 4, 1900, offered to its readers a carefully condensed history of the rise and fall of this institution, to which very little further information can be added. The ground landlord of the property, called Mill Field, or Kirkham's Close, was Sir Benjamin Maddocks, who sold it to Lord Dunmore, from whom Sir John Gallini acquired it in 1773, with the house that then stood on the ground, the town residence of Mathew, Lord Dillon.

Gallini is said to have come to England as dancing master to the family of George III.; but he must have been a man of some musical talent, with the gift of organization, for at one time he was Manager of the King's Opera House in the Haymarket. He acquired considerable wealth, married a daughter of Lord Abingdon, with whose money, and in combination with Bach and Abel, two famous musicians from Germany, he cleared away Lord Dillon's residence, and built in its place the great pile which has been recently razed to the ground. The great concert-room, the ceilings of which were decorated with the paintings of Cipriani, was 90 feet by 35 feet, and held 800 persons.

The first of a long series of subscription concerts was commenced by Bach and Abel in 1776, and the last musical entertainment ever given in the rooms took place on the evening of Saturday, December 19, 1874. The article already

referred to mentions that from 1804 and for more than forty years afterwards the 'Concert of Antient Music' was given here and was supported by many persons of rank and fashion; and it may be added that in 1846 the 'Amateur Musical Society' was established and held its meetings here, at which the double, or contra-bass performers, were the Duke of Leinster and Sir Archibald Keppel, while the Earl of Arundel and Sir Percy Shelley performed the trumpet parts. The Royal Academy of Music has by degrees acquired large premises, which now include a concert-room; but in earlier days it resorted to the Hanover Square Rooms, and its first concert was given there on December 8, 1828. The late Mr. Henry Russell, whose singing of national melodies gave pleasure to many thousands in the middle of the last century, is said to have had a hand in starting the St. George's Club, a cosmopolitan institution that succeeded the concert-rooms, and had a very chequered life between 1875 and 1899, when it was dissolved. Mr. Robert Cocks purchased the freehold some years ago, and flats and shops are now being built on the old Mill Field. A large flock of pigeons, for many years domiciled on the roof and pillars of the house, have by its disappearance been driven into exile, and, singularly enough, have adopted another Club, the 'Oriental,' as their new home.

Close to the Hanover Square Rooms, at No. 6, lived in the beginning of the eighteenth century George Granville, Baron Lansdowne. He was born in 1667, and in his youth displayed such extraordinary merit that at the early age of thirteen he was made M.A. at Trinity College, Cambridge. He was a minor poet, and held offices under Government, but he showed no great ability in later life. He died in the Square

in 1735, and the title died with him, as he had no male heirs. He left, however, a niece, Mary Granville, who married Mr. Pendarves, and afterwards became the celebrated Mrs. Delany. At a later period the house was occupied by Dr. George Hamilton Roe, a physician of some celebrity. He was a Wexford man by birth, and graduated at Edinburgh in 1821. In 1824 he was Physician to the Westminster Hospital and Harveian Orator in 1836. He had a large practice, and for many years he gave gratuitous advice to rich and poor who applied for it, and crowds used to assemble every morning in the Square in front of his house to receive his charity. The display of this virtue was not, however, without a motive, for it is said that one or two general practitioners were always seated at the table with him, and to their charge were handed over any patients of the better class who appeared likely to be remunerative.

No. 10, at the south-west corner of Prince's Street, is built on the site of the residence of Admiral Lord Rodney. His father commanded the Royal yacht in which George II., accompanied by the Duke of Chandos, was accustomed to make his frequent visits to Hanover, and the boy was christened George Brydges, after his royal and noble godfathers. He entered the naval service at a very early age and quickly rose to high commands. In 1759 he was made Admiral of the Blue and a baronet, but ten years later he entered upon a political career, and the expenses of an election as M.P. for Northampton ruined him for the time being, and he had to seek safety from his creditors on the Continent. Thence after some delay he was recalled, and given the command of a squadron destined for the Mediterranean. He fought an action



at St. Vincent in 1780 with a Spanish fleet, when he captured Admiral Langara and six of his ships, and two years later he encountered a French fleet in the West Indies, took five ships of the line, and sent the Admiral, Count de Grasse, a prisoner to England.

When he returned home in 1782, he was raised to the peerage, and on his arrival went to stay with the Earl of Powis in Albemarle Street, but shortly afterwards he removed to Hanover Square. In his later years he had a domestic trouble which has been lightly treated as a romantic event in the history of the Square. His daughter Jane, one of the children of a large family, married in 1784, against the wishes of her parents, a son of Sir William Chambers, the architect of Somerset House, and a Knight of Sweden. The marriage resulted in misfortune and scandal, and was the subject of two important decisions of Lord Ellenborough on the question of matrimonial settlements.<sup>1</sup> The gallant Admiral died at his house in the Square in 1792, and a monument was erected to his memory at the national expense in St. Paul's Cathedral. This house was afterwards converted into an hotel, and so remained for upwards of sixty years. In 1824 it was called the 'Brunswick House Hotel,' kept by a Mr. Blake, and was a fashionable resort. It was pulled down about 1886 to make way for the flats and shops which now cover the corner of the Square and part of Prince's Street.

He was not our only old salt. Lord Anson is said to have resided there too, and John Jervis, Earl St. Vincent, lived at No. 15. He was born in 1734, and entered the Navy when only ten years old. The whole of his life was passed in the

<sup>1</sup> *Lives of the Lord Chancellors.*

active service of his profession, and his crowning work was the defeat of a Spanish force off Cape St. Vincent, consisting of twenty-seven 74's and seven other ships from 112 to 130 guns each, his own command on February 4, 1797, the day of his victory, being composed of fifteen sail of the line. To him, too, a memorial was erected in St. Paul's Cathedral by a vote of the House of Commons. He died childless, but by special remainder he was succeeded in his Viscounty of St. Vincent by a nephew, whose only daughter, the Hon. Mary Ann Jervis, was married in 1840 to David Ochterlony Dyce-Sombre, adopted son and heir of the Begum Samroo, and hence arose, some years later, a long and expensive lawsuit, which attracted a good deal of attention in Indian circles.

*Sic transit gloria mundi!* Not twenty years ago a sword of honour presented to John Jervis, Lord St. Vincent, was exposed for sale in the shop of a celebrated pawnbroker of the Strand whose premises have recently passed through a process of transition.

No. 15 was afterwards acquired by the Royal Orthopædic Hospital, an institution founded in 1840 by Dr. William John Little, the senior physician at that time of the London Hospital. It is said that Doctor Little had a strong fellow-feeling for the patients of this hospital, due to the fact that he had himself suffered from a slight deformity, which was removed by an operation performed in 1836 by the celebrated Stromeyer, of Hanover. Its early home was in Bloomsbury Square, but in a few years it was found necessary to increase the accommodation, and the Society purchased in 1856 the freehold of the house in the Square, together with the premises extending back to 297 Oxford Street.

This second home is now being rebuilt, and we trust it may





No. 17

No. 16

No. 15

HANOVER SQUARE



long continue to afford its charitable aid to the many sufferers from spinal disease and other deformities.

Harewood Place was not originally included in the Square, and it is a curious fact that in the very early account of it the Square is designated Hanover *Street* Square, as though it had been thrown northwards from Hanover Street, which in old plans included a great part of what is now called Brook Street.

Harewood House, No. 12 in the Square, was built from designs of Robert Adam, architect, for John, the third Duke of Roxburghe, who was a celebrated book-collector, and died unmarried in 1804. The whole property on both sides of the 'Place' was then acquired by the Lascelles family, of Harewood, who were ennobled, and Edward Viscount Lascelles, commonly known as 'Beau Lascelles,' made in the house one of the most remarkable collections of old china that had ever existed in England.

For many years Harewood Place was closed to carriage traffic by a pair of iron gates facing Oxford Street, which were only opened when the Earl of Harewood was in town. The gates were removed by the London County Council about 1894, but that body seem to have recognized that a family of the name of Fallon, who for more than forty years had a fruit-stall in front of them, had acquired certain vested rights, for they have permitted them to continue their trade in Harewood Place, although in a much less dignified position.

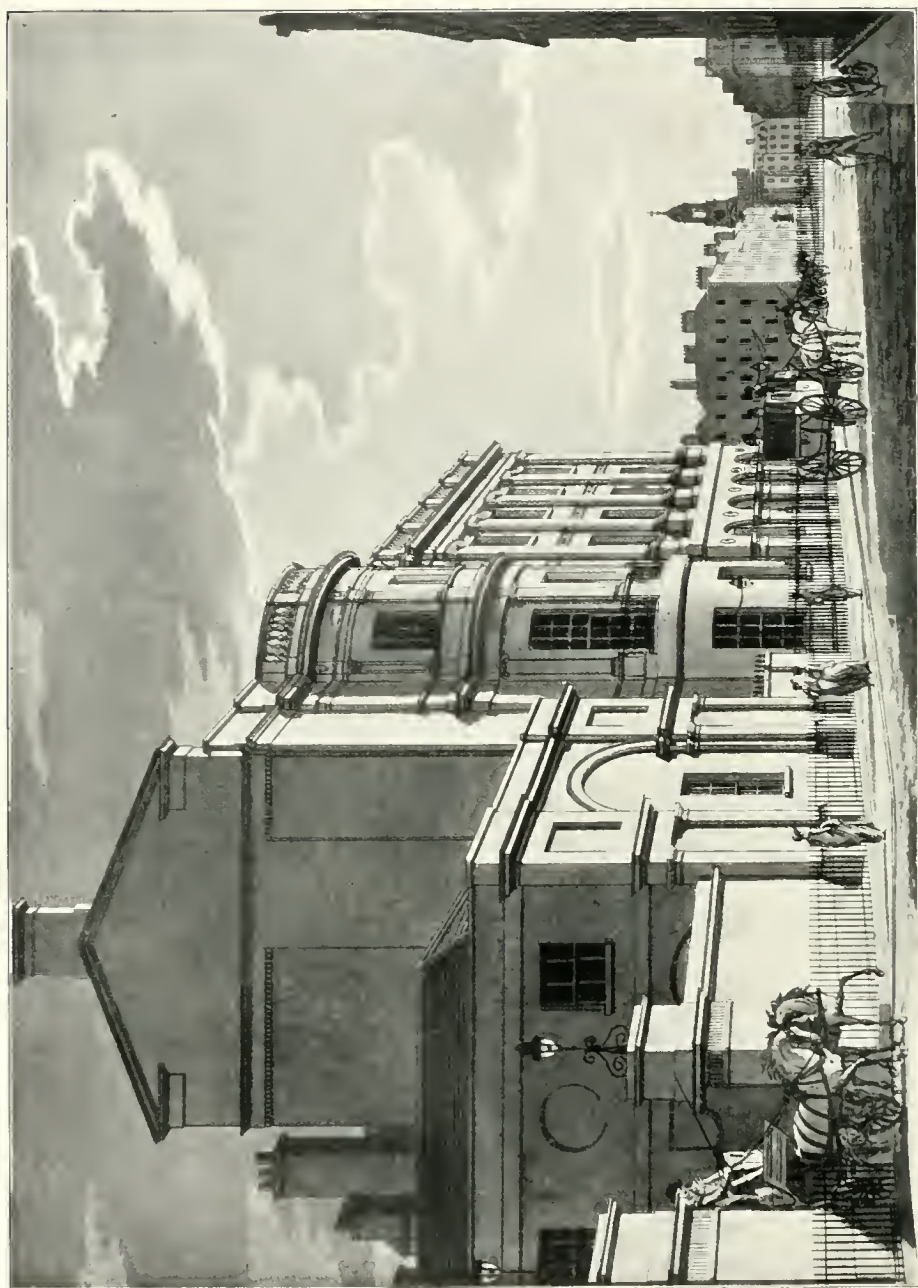
The late Dr. Mortimer Granville, an eminent authority on gout, and at one time editor of the 'Globe' newspaper, occupied No. 13 in the Square, and Sir James Paget lived in the next house, opposite to Harewood House, until shortly before they were rebuilt. No. 16 was for a long time the home of the

Royal College of Chemistry, of which the premises extended back into Oxford Street, and Mr. Josias Dupré Alexander, a Director of the East India Company and M.P. for Old Sarum, resided here for some years after the sale of his own house, No. 18, to the Oriental Club.

No. 17, the residence of Sir Theodore Janssen, the abrupt termination of whose career has already been mentioned, together with Nos. 2 and 3 Tenterden Street which adjoin it, are all elaborately decorated, and have the appearance of having been built for extremely wealthy people. Probably they were the residences of City magnates in the middle of the eighteenth century, for it may be remembered that Hanover Square is of an earlier date than a great part of Bloomsbury, which afterwards became their fashionable district; and the owners seem to have been willing to incur any amount of expense in order to render their homes palatial. With the open space at their back extending to the Tyburn Road, they must have been pleasantly situated, and No. 17, with a long stretch of apartments added to the original building, was a large and stately residence.

In this stretch of apartments there is a great peculiarity. They consist of a small octagonal room with a diameter of 12 or 14 feet built out from the principal ground-floor room of the original house, and lighted only from the roof; adjoining this is a room some 36 feet in length and only 12 or 14 feet in breadth, lighted also by a skylight; and then follows another octagonal room similar to the former one that I have described. Thus the three rooms are built out from the back of the house, and from their position are completely isolated, and, moreover, cannot be overlooked.

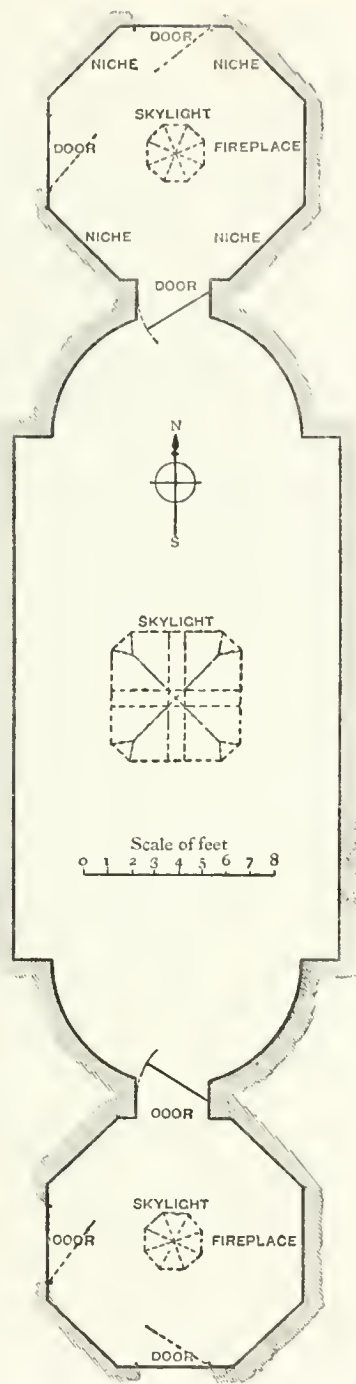




HAREWOOD HOUSE, HANOVER SQUARE

*From an aquatint published in 1806, in the possession of Sir Ernest Clarke*





PLAN OF AN OUTBUILDING AT NO. 17 HANOVER SQUARE

I have been greatly impressed by the views of a gentleman, whose opinion is well entitled to respect, as to the object and purpose of this long but narrow out-building. Mr. T. H. Watson is a member of the Arts Club, who had their home in this house from the time of their establishment in 1863 until a short time ago, when they removed to Dover Street.

He has had, therefore, many opportunities for forming an opinion, and, moreover, he is by profession an architect and the holder of a public appointment.

When accompanying me to view the premises by the kind permission of Messrs. Mayer & Co., artists in stained glass, the present leaseholders, he pointed out that the ornamentation of the ceilings and the designs of the wood-work differ greatly in this portion of the house from the original building, and evidently belong to a later period, which he ascribed to the end of the reign of George III., and he went on to explain the purpose for which a long narrow room like that in which we were standing could have been erected.

It could not have been intended for a dining-room, it is too narrow to admit an old-fashioned mahogany table of the early part of last century; it could not have been a library, there is scarcely room for a good book-case, and the light from the roof is quite inadequate to the requirements of a bibliophile; but there is one purpose to which it appears to be absolutely and perfectly adapted, that of a study.

Study of what and by whom? Study of her theatrical parts of Phœbe in 'As You Like It,' of Peggy in 'The Country Girl,' and of many other characters in which Dorothy Bland, known in history as Mrs. Jordan, used to appear and delight her audiences.



It is, in fact, the long front of a stage with a side entrance at both extremities, on which the fair actress could walk and declaim her parts without suffering the inconvenience of listeners or onlookers.

An Irish girl by birth, Dorothy Jordan, which was her theatrical name, appeared before a London audience for the first time in 1785, and quickly became a decided favourite. For some years she lived in this house under the protection of a Mr. (afterwards Sir Richard) Ford, who was a wealthy man, and who in all probability paid the cost of the extension of the premises that I have described, for the Duke of Clarence, who later on won her affections, and is said to have married her, was greatly harassed, and was, as she herself wrote, 'the most wretched of men on account of the want of money.' Nevertheless, she lived happily with the Duke, who afterwards became William IV., from 1791 to 1811, during which period they had a family of ten children, the elder of whom were born in Hanover Square, and the others at the Duke's country house in Bushey Park, near Hampton, of which he was the Ranger.

In the latter year a complete severance took place, for political and other reasons, and Mrs. Jordan shortly afterwards returned to the stage, but she fell into great pecuniary difficulties, and had to seek safety from her creditors in France, where she died in 1816. Her eldest son, George FitzClarence, was created by his father Earl of Munster in 1834, and was appointed one of her aides-de-camp by Her late Majesty.

He was an active member of our Club, and frequently on our Committees.

This house, with No. 2 Tenterden Street, and four houses

facing Oxford Street, which have been built upon the gardens in their rear, have been the freehold property of the Dashwoods, of West Wycombe Park, Bucks, for several generations, and this fact supports my surmise that the early residents of this part of Hanover Square were City merchants.

The Dashwoods are an old Dorsetshire family, but Francis Dashwood came to London in the seventeenth century, and was an alderman and successful Turkey merchant. One son, Sir Samuel, was Lord Mayor in 1702; and the third son, Francis, was created a baronet in 1707.

The second Baronet, who, through his mother, Mary, daughter of Vere, fourth Earl of Westmorland, became Baron Le Despencer, was also the freeholder of No. 18 Hanover Square, and resided in the house on the site of which the Oriental Club was afterwards erected.

The beautiful frescoes which adorn No. 17 Hanover Square were painted by Borgini, who painted others at the county residence acquired by one or other of the London merchants whom I have mentioned, at West Wycombe Park, Bucks; and his work may also be seen in the Houses of Parliament.

The present tenant of the freeholds is the ninth Baronet, Sir Robert John Dashwood, and it is said that the leases will fall in in about five years, when probably modern flats will take the place of those fine old mansions.

The four houses numbered 18 to 21 on the west side of the Square belonged to the 'Pollen' Estate, which adjoined the Conduit Mead property belonging to the City Corporation, and which also embraced part of Cork Street and other lands to the south of Conduit Street. An extract from the plan of this estate in 1732 shows that at that date the Pollens had





No. 20

No. 19

THE CLUB

HANOVER SQUARE

disposed of all their houses in the Square. No. 18 was sold to Mr. John Fane, No. 19 to John, second Earl of Dunmore, No. 20 to the first Duke of Montrose, and 21 to John Jeffries.

Mr. John Fane, who purchased No. 18, the present Club-house, was created Baron Catherlough in the peerage of Ireland, and afterwards succeeded to the Earldom of Westmorland, being the seventh to hold that title, and to the Barony of Le Despencer. He died without issue in 1762, when the Earldom passed to the next heir, and the title of Le Despencer was confirmed to Sir Francis Dashwood, Bart., to whom reference has already been made. Sir Francis was succeeded by his brother Sir Thomas, also Lord Le Despencer, who sold the property to Mr. Alexander, from whom the Club acquired it in 1824.

No. 19 has been occupied by Messrs. Edwin Ashdown & Co., Limited, importers and publishers of music, for the last forty years, and they succeeded Messrs. Wessel & Co., who had been for many years engaged in the same business. In 1827, Sir Simon Clarke, tenth Baronet of Shirland, was the owner of the house, and some years later the long lease was purchased by Sir William Feilden, first Baronet and M.P. for Blackburn. A Count and Countess San Antonio occupied the upper part in the early twenties. They were celebrities in the musical world, and great patrons of the Royal Academy of Music. The Countess was also a clever actress, and had a stage erected in her apartments.

No. 20 was formerly the residence of Captain Tyler, who offered the premises to the Club; it was afterwards occupied by Lord Lucan, of Crimean fame, and more lately



by the Countess Poulett, widow of the fifth Earl, and aunt of the late Peer, who died in 1899, leaving the succession in dispute. A claimant to this peerage has attracted a good deal of attention through his practice of grinding an organ in public. After remaining vacant for some years, it finally became the home of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, and of several other scientific institutions.

The Zoological Society of London (originally the Zoological Club), instituted in 1826, formerly had their offices at No. 11 in the Square, but afterwards removed to No. 3, where they continue to flourish under the guiding hand of their distinguished Secretary, Dr. P. L. Selater, F.R.S., whom we are proud to claim as a member. No. 2 is a fine specimen of what are called in old indentures 'noble mansions.' It contains a large concert-hall on the ground floor, and the interior is handsomely decorated, but I have not been able to trace its earlier occupants.

The bronze statue of William Pitt, standing at the south end of the Square garden, and looking down George Street, was erected to the memory of a great statesman who was born in 1759, was first Lord of the Treasury, and Chancellor of the Exchequer in his twenty-fourth year, and who died in 1806.

I cannot say that this especial site was selected on account of his connection with Indian legislation, and its influence on Orientalists, but it was Pitt who introduced and carried in 1784 a Bill for the establishment of the Board of Control, a sort of Star Chamber, instituted for the purpose of aiding and controlling the Government of India, which only ceased to exist in 1858, when the East India Company was abolished.

The statue by Sir Francis Chantrey was erected in 1831, a

quarter of a century after the death of the statesman, and is said to have cost 7,000*l*.

An attempt was made on the morning of its inauguration to pull it down, but was successfully resisted, as it had been firmly and solidly fixed by heavy clamps into the lofty pedestal on which it stands.

Mention of the area now known as the 'Square Gardens' is frequently made by old topographers.

In a print made at the beginning of the eighteenth century and reproduced in the 'History of Mayfair and Belgravia,' by Mr. George Clinch, it is represented as being surrounded with a post and rail fence with several openings; and in a work published in 1771 the author of 'Critical Observations on the Buildings and Improvements of London' writes as follows: 'I do not know what to make of it. It is neither open nor enclosed. Every convenience is railed out, and every nuisance railed in. Carriages have a narrow ill-paved street to turn round in, and the middle has the air of a cow-yard, where blackguards assemble in the winter to play hustle-cap, up to the ankles in dirt. This is the more to be regretted as the Square is susceptible of improvement at a small expense.'

In Papworth's 'Views of London' (1816) it is shown as being railed in and covered with bushes, but it was not really taken in hand until some years later.

As regards the streets that adjoin or converge on the Square, I will only advert to those in which we have some personal interest—Conduit Street, for instance. At No. 37 lived, in 1802, George Canning, the statesman; and fifty years later one of our members, John Elliotson, M.D., F.R.S., resided in the same house. He was a man of some eminence,

and was President of the Chirurgical Society at the time of its incorporation in 1834. His bust stands in the hall of No. 20 Hanover Square, the present home of the Society. He was called as an expert in the great Dyce-Sombre case in 1853, but towards the end of his life he appears to have suffered great pecuniary losses, owing to his extravagant credulity in mesmerism. In the same street lived, in 1799, Mr. Daniel Orme, Historical Engraver to His Majesty and H.R.H. the Prince of Wales; and also E. Orme, printseller, who published by authority the works of his relative, of which we have several examples in the Club.

Maddox Street, I may say, *en passant*, should more properly be called Maddocks's Street, for it is named after a Sir Benjamin Maddocks, Bart., of Broughton-Monchelery, who lived at the end of the seventeenth century, and was the owner of the Millfield or Kirkham's Close property on the south-east side of the Square, and also of the Pollen Estate, to which I have already referred, and which was inherited through his mother, daughter of Sir Benjamin Maddocks, by Benjamin Pollen, who was born in 1705.

It has been already mentioned that Lord Cowper lived at No. 13 George Street, and it may be added that another Lord High Chancellor, Lord Lyndhurst, resided for many years at No. 25, on the opposite side of the road, where his father, John Singleton Copley, R.A., the eminent painter of historical subjects, several of which are in the National Gallery, had settled in 1778.

This house and the adjoining one, No. 26, were pulled down after the death of Lord Lyndhurst, and on the site a new building was raised by Mr. Gore-Langton, afterwards



Earl Temple. It is now occupied by the Young Women's Christian Association.

In the time of the old Lord, the house was one of the great resorts of the beauty and fashion of London.

'In the Days of the Dandies' Lord Lamington writes: 'Happy days those were when we were invited to George Street, and made welcome by this Nestor of hosts, "the old man eloquent," and by a hostess who in herself possessed all those qualities which such a mind as his could appreciate, and which endeared her for herself, as well as for the tie which united her to our affectionate friend and protector.' And Lord Beaconsfield, who as Benjamin Disraeli was at one time the head of the Young England party, tells us how 'eighty of the supremest *ton* and beauty,' including D'Orsay, Henry Bulwer, the Chesterfields, the Ansons, and the Worcesters, went to a supper at Lord Lyndhurst's after a fancy dress ball given in 1836 for the benefit of the Royal Academy of Music. Disraeli himself wore a fancy dress which was very good, with some additions, such as a silken shirt with long sleeves, lent him by Henry Baillie. This was Henry James Baillie, of Redcastle, P.C., and M.P. for County Inverness, who afterwards became Joint-Secretary of the Board of Control and Under-Secretary of State for India, and whose name is on the roll of members of our Club.

The church of St. George the Martyr was consecrated in 1724. The architect was John James, and the building is regarded externally as a very handsome one, but the interior is exceedingly dark, and it is with great difficulty that the names of the churchwardens inscribed on the front of the galleries can be deciphered.

Amongst them are those of several of our members from time to time, and I have been recently told that others have been great supporters of the parish schools and charities. The burial-ground of St. George's, Hanover Square, was enclosed in 1764. The boundary of the City and Liberties of Westminster is on the south side of the Bayswater Road, but the area covered by the cemetery has been robbed from Marylebone, and forms part of Westminster. The houses in Hyde Park Place built in front of the burial-ground have been there for the last hundred years, for the leases are now falling in, and the old tenements are being replaced by large modern mansions. Until a few years ago an old-fashioned inn occupied the site of Nos. 9 and 11, and here man and horse were accustomed to find refreshment when the funeral procession had discharged its occupants at the little chapel-of-ease, which was replaced a few years ago by the Home of Rest erected by Mrs. Russell-Gurney.

Before the conversion of the burial-ground into an ornamental garden, I was wandering one day among the dead, and in addition to the memorials to the Rev. Laurence Sterne and Mrs. Ann Radcliffe, authoress of the once widely read novel 'The Mysteries of Udolpho,' which were pointed out to me by the attendant, I came across the tomb of Mrs. Marianne Baillie, wife of Alexander Baillie, who seems in her day to have been a traveller and verse-writer of some eminence, for a place has been found for her in the 'Dictionary of National Biography.'

Notwithstanding considerable research, I have not yet been able to ascertain from whom, or from where, Tenterden Street, which gives entrance to our Club, acquired its name.

It has nothing to do with the Lord Chief Justice of England, for it was so called more than a century before he received a peerage ; nor does it appear to be connected with the little village in Kent from which he took his title, though it is possible that the intermarriage of some one from that place with a member of the Pollen family, the original proprietors of the street, may have brought the designation into London.

No. 1 is at the bottom of Dering Street and overlooks the *Conduit yard* belonging to the Club. For a long time it had a very bad reputation, and the architects we employed were constantly engaged in devising ways to prevent the Club-rooms being overlooked by its denizens. I have already mentioned No. 2, and in reference to No. 3 there are many rumours but nothing very definite. It is a fine family mansion, with large rooms on the ground floor, opening one into the other, and divided by massive mahogany doors. Indeed, massiveness is the great feature of the house. The front door is a marvel, with its bolts and bars and locks, of great size and strength and weight, evidently intended to resist a fierce onslaught from the outside. Perhaps they were affixed for that purpose, for during the Gordon Riots of 1780 several attempts were made by the rioters to reach this street in search of obnoxious politicians ; but rumour has it that the defences of the residence were intended to resist the attacks of others besides a noisy mob. When a young lady is interned, if not against her own will, at least in opposition to that of her friends ; when people are incarcerated as lunatics even though they may be perfectly sane, it is wise for the proprietor of the house in which they are confined to take all necessary measures to resist the

attempts of relatives who may desire to restore their friends to liberty.

It has been stated by some of the chroniclers of the age, scandalous I allow, that the 'fair Quaker,' Hannah Lightfoot, was brought to this house from her home in St. James's Market, and that the tenant was a physician of some repute, who made a large income by the care of the insane, and it has been added that in the basement could be seen the rings and staples to which refractory patients were attached.

I have been permitted to inspect the interior and have found no vestiges of the doctor's persuasive system, but I have conversed with old inhabitants who have known the Square for upwards of fifty years, and they all maintain the same story, that in former days the house was occupied by a physician, and that King George III. used to visit him there. Curiously enough, there is some foundation for the legend.

In the early part of the last century the tenant of this very house was Sir William Knighton, a physician, and Private Secretary to King George IV., a man of unquestionable talents, and in every sense of the word an accomplished courtier. In giving his characteristics I have adopted the words of an obituary written very shortly after his death in 1836.

In connecting Sir William with No. 3 Tenterden Street, I do not wish to imply that he was in any way interested in the abduction of Miss Hannah Lightfoot, for that event occurred before his birth; but the fact that the Prince Regent appointed him physician to his father during the King's illness lends some countenance to the story of the royal visits, and the more so because Sir William had neither the eminence nor celebrity in his profession to entitle him to so



No. 4  
(ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC)

No. 3

No. 2

TENTERDEN STREET, HANOVER SQUARE





distinguished a position. He was originally an apothecary at Tavistock, but soon removed to London, and practised in this house in Tenterden Street as an accoucheur, and it was in this branch of surgery that he gained some notoriety and was presented with the residence fully furnished in acknowledgment of the services that he rendered in a delicate case. At a later period he was created a baronet, and received 1,000*l.* per annum for his professional attendance on King George III.

No. 4 Tenterden Street was an object of attack by the excited populace in the 'No Popery' Riots. Lord George Gordon was tried for high treason as being the leader of that movement, but it is only fair to say that he was acquitted.

The disturbance was, however, very serious; the loss of property was enormous; and some 500 people were killed, wounded, or executed. The individual residing in the house who had excited the anger of the crowd was Henry Herbert, who had at that time just been created Lord Porchester. He was a great favourite of George III., by whom he was advanced to the earldom of Carnarvon in 1793, and appointed Master of the Horse in 1806. It is stated that His Majesty frequently brought his children to the house, and that they used to partake of tea and syllabubs in the garden, which then stretched back to the main road. The attempted attack on the Square was directed from Broad Street, but barricades had been erected at all the corners, and troops were present to defend them in large numbers.

The house was afterwards let by the second Earl of Carnarvon to the Royal Academy of Music, and is still in the occupation of that valuable institution.

Its establishment in 1822 was mainly due to the unwearying exertions and the large social influence of John, Lord Burghersh, who succeeded to the title of Westmorland in 1841 as the eleventh Earl.

As has been stated, our Club had already been connected with this noble family, John, the seventh Earl, having purchased the freehold nearly a century before ; but any direct interest in the property had been severed for many years when his successor came upon the scene and founded the Academy immediately facing our Club-house.

Lord Burghersh was a very remarkable man. He was a general officer in the Army, who had seen a good deal of active service, and he was also a diplomatist of some note and a talented musician. The first meeting of the Committee recorded on the Minutes was held on August 26, 1822, and at that very time his Lordship was preparing to start for his embassy at Florence, having been recently appointed Minister to the Court of Tuscany.

The Academy commenced on a very small scale. It was simply a school for boys and girls, ten of each sex, who must have been, however, somewhat precocious, for the fact that they would have to use the same entrance-door, and thus meet one another frequently, caused great alarm in the minds of their tutors. Stringent measures were adopted to prevent their meeting at the back of the house, for the garden was divided into two parts, and each sex was kept to its own division. Nevertheless, they managed to meet, and the loves of Edward Seguin, a bass singer, and of Miss Emma Childe, which were carried on over the garden wall, caused much anxiety to the reverend gentleman who presided over the



institution. History records the fact that this young couple were afterwards happily married, and proved shining lights in their profession, and probably Edward made a good husband, for he seems in his boyhood to have been a frightful pickle.

He was the leader of a movement that was frequently got up for the benefit of our Club. In the absence of the 'Reverend,' as they called the Principal, the boys assembled at the front windows with all the trombones and 'loud bassoons' that they could get hold of, and held a Dutch concert for our edification, and when we sent to complain they meekly remarked that it was very hard that they could not be allowed to practice.

When the Committee of the Academy determined to take on lease the house of Lord Carnarvon, which was then unoccupied, his Lordship made the condition that the trees in the garden should be strictly preserved and protected, and that no person had any authority to pass through the bar, which then crossed the end of Tenterden Street, and was only removed in 1869, except Lady Torrington, who lived at the corner house, and had the key. There were two Ladies Torrington living at that time, but I believe that the one referred to was Bridget, widow of the fifth Viscount, who died shortly afterwards.

The Academy at the outset was frequently in difficulties, especially when Lord Burghersh was away from England, for without his control the money seems to have been used most injudiciously.

On his return he induced the Court to afford their patronage, and by means of annual dinners, one of which was given at the Argyll Rooms, and of fancy dress balls at Almack's or the King's Antient Concert Rooms in Hanover Square,

sufficient funds were raised to carry on the good work and to extend its operations. He was indefatigable, too, in urging his friends to subscribe annually ; but money was less abundant than it is nowadays, and among other apologies for delays in making remittances we find this letter : ‘The Marquis of Londonderry regrets that his subscription is not paid ; but the fact is, all my money is eaten up by my houses, and I never was so poor.’

The Royal Academy has greatly increased its premises, and now occupies the frontage of Tenterden Street from No. 3 to the end, and in addition has some houses in Dering Street. Music has succeeded in doing what numerous committees, with money at their back, and assisted by the law, for upwards of half a century failed to effect ; it has ousted the disreputable characters who formerly infested the street, known at different periods by the names of Shepherd, Union, and Dering. We are very friendly neighbours, the Club and the Academy ; but sometimes on hot summer afternoons, when all our windows are thrown open, when two or three pianos are ‘going’ at the same time, when the grave deep voice of the ‘basso’ issues from one house, the soprano of a fair student from another, and in a third several amateurs are practicing on different wind instruments, we are almost tempted to wish for a return of the noisy but intermittent Dutch concerts with which Mr. Edward Seguin serenaded our predecessors.

## CHAPTER II

## OUR INFANCY

THE *fons et origo* of the Oriental Club may be traced to the commission granted by His Majesty King George II. to Major Stringer Lawrence, whose portrait as a general officer hangs in the members' dining-room. He was the first British Commander-in-Chief in India, and has been called the 'Father of the Indian Army.' In 1748 he received the King's Brevet as 'Major in the East Indies only,' and he went out to India in command of all the Company's Forces, with a salary of 820*l.* a year. The precedent set in the case of Lawrence was followed in the appointment of all military officers to India, until the Government of the East India Company ceased to exist in 1858. They held commissions under the Seal of the Company, signed by the President in Council and the Commander-in-Chief for the time being, to take rank and post in the Army of India *only*, and so long as they remained in that country they were on the same footing as King's officers—that is to say, officers of the British Regular Army; but on leaving it, either on furlough or retirement, they denuded themselves of all military grade, and only retained by courtesy their official titles in home society.

Hence it follows that the King's and the Company's officers found themselves in very different positions on their return to

England. They might have served together throughout the campaigns of Wellesley, of Cornwallis, and of Combermere; have been present side by side at the victory of Assaye and at the storming of Seringapatam and Bhurtpore; have jointly risked their lives in the performance of arduous duties in unhealthy climates and in the midst of famine and disease, and they probably had formed that relationship of brotherhood-in-arms, cemented during their careers of peril and danger, which they would deeply regret to see severed by force of circumstances.

And yet in the first quarter of the last century such a severance seemed not only probable but almost unavoidable.

The King's officer, if still on the Active List, went back to his regiment, or, if retired and of field rank, he had a claim to election as member of at least one military club which then existed; but the Company's officer, whether on furlough or on retirement, had no regiment where he might renew his acquaintance with old friends and brother-officers, and no club to which he could resort.

The same facts apply in a great measure to members of the Indian Civil Service, who, in those days, were called Senior Merchants, Junior Merchants, Factors, and Writers. These terms had already ceased to have any relation to the occupation of these officials, many of whom held high posts as Secretaries of Government, Judges, Commissioners, Collectors, Magistrates, &c., in the administration of British India, while others had been Ministers Plenipotentiary to foreign States and residents at Native Courts. In some cases they sacrificed on returning home the style and title of 'Honourable,' which was accorded to Ministers of Government, Judges of the High Court, and others; and in all cases their return to this country

entailed loss of position and consequence and relegation to the unofficial world.

There was another cause that further increased the pitiful condition of servants of the Company when health or wealth induced them to resign their labours and to seek rest and retirement in their native land. They might visit the homes of their boyhood, perhaps situated in the Highlands of Scotland or in the North of Ireland, from which districts so many lads sallied forth to win honour and glory on the battle-fields of India or in the administration of that great Empire ; but the climate of those picturesque countries, dear as they are to the tourist and the sportsman, renders them somewhat unsuitable, as a permanent residence, to the middle-aged gentleman who has passed the prime of his life on the hot plains of the East. And, generally speaking, this middle-aged gentleman had no home of his own—that is to say, he had neither wife nor children.

Writers and cadets were too young to marry when they entered on their career, and they *thought* themselves *too* young when, after ten years' service, they took their first furlough to Europe.

In India there were in those days very few opportunities for choosing a life-partner. Marriage with a native lady was forbidden by the Company's regulations, and English ladies were scarce.

How the Hon. Mr. Revel consigned his three daughters, per the Indiaman 'Bombay Castle,' to their grandfather at Madras, has been well told by Captain Marryat;<sup>1</sup> but such cargoes were rare and risky, and the influx of European ladies did not set in till many years later. It was about

<sup>1</sup> *Newton Foster.*



the middle of the nineteenth century, when the Overland route had been established, that the discovery of India as a marriage market was first made, and then our fair sisters flooded the country.

By some old officers, survivors of the great Indian rebellion, the number of whom is unhappily rapidly decreasing, the want of any knowledge of the impending outbreak, and the consequent state of unpreparedness in which it found us, have been ascribed to this female influx from Europe. They say that in the old days the regiment was *the family*, that its members lived in close communion, and met together daily in the performance of their professional duties, in the encouragement of the sports and pastimes of the native rank and file, and socially every evening at the mess ; but that in the privacy of their own quarters it was not deemed immoral or improper that they should find solace and enjoyment in female society, personated by the relative of a subadar or jemadar of their own company or troop, from whom they quickly acquired a practical knowledge of the native languages, and, moreover, received early intelligence of any discontent or inquietude that might be existing amongst the men under their command.

But when the commanding officer took to himself an English wife, who frequently commanded him ; when the majors and senior captains became married men, a strong feminine party was quickly formed, who disapproved of the manner of living of the younger officers, and who endeavoured to lead them back to the paths of virtue and morality. It was Hobson's choice—either discard the native partner or suffer social banishment from the circle of European ladies.

Virtue was naturally crowned with success, but the Intelligence Department lost a good deal of information, and the outbreak at Meerut in the month of May 1857 came upon the official world as a most surprising and unexpected event.

But to return to our writer and cadet. If they did not marry during their first furlough, when they came home, seasoned and experienced officials, eager to enjoy a well-earned holiday, after a long exile, still less were they inclined to become Benedicts, when after another ten years' spell in the East the time for their second furlough came round.

Indian habits, Indian luxuries, and Indian lassitude had grown upon them, and while they, on the one hand, were dubious as to the wisdom of taking back on their return to duty an English wife, on the other hand the majority of English parents were disinclined to allow a young girl to encounter the inconveniences of a long voyage and the peril and dangers of a prolonged residence in a distant land, of which their knowledge was very limited. And so again the ceremony was deferred until, after a few years' more service, they would be able to retire on full pensions and settle down at home for good.

There were other gentlemen connected with India whose goings backwards and forwards were more independent of the Company's regulations—members of mercantile houses of Calcutta, Madras, Bombay, and China, bankers, lawyers, shipping agents, &c.; but it is remarkable that comparatively very few of them were married men in the first quarter of the nineteenth century.

The year 1824 marks a somewhat remarkable epoch in the social history of London. The Oriental Club was instituted,

the first pile of new London Bridge was driven, the first stone of the General Post Office was laid, the National Gallery was opened to the public, and our national poet, Lord Byron, who was born within a stone's-throw of the Club, died in that year at Missolonghi.

Moreover, it is a date from which may be calculated a long period of almost universal peace and quietude. The clash of arms had ceased in Europe, and the Powers were resting and recruiting after the Napoleonic wars. In India itself a condition of calmness and tranquillity reigned over the country that had never previously existed since the Golden Age of the Moguls.

This happy state of affairs released many of the King's officers who had been serving in the East, and allowed considerable reductions to be made in the Active List of the Company's servants, both military and civil.

As has already been pointed out, the officers of the Crown on their return to England would probably rejoin their old associations, their regiments and depôts, and the clubs of which they might previously have been members. At that time there were only two military clubs in London—the Guards', founded in 1813 for officers of the Household troops, and the United Service, which dates from 1815, and to which only field officers of the Royal Army, and of equivalent rank in the Navy, were eligible. Many of the old clubs, such as the Cocoa Tree, Boodle's, Almack's, and Arthur's, were still flourishing, and new ones had recently sprung into existence—the Travellers', the Union, and the United University; but the former were chiefly political or gambling, and the latter were nearly contemporaneous with the Oriental.



Of the great company of Indian officials who came home in the early twenties, some few became members of the Travellers' and others joined the Alfred, which had been established in 1808, and in later years was absorbed into our Club; but the majority were left stranded in London, and certainly must have encountered some difficulty in 'killing time.'

The Royal Asiatic Society, founded in 1823 and then located at 14 Grafton Street, was glad to welcome members of a fraternal but much older institution, the Asiatic Society of Bengal, which was established at Calcutta by Sir William Jones in 1784, and here military men and civilians used to meet to read the papers, to write their letters, and to while away an hour or two in conversation and the interchange of old reminiscences.

Scattered over the West End were several other institutions called *Clubs*. There was a Calcutta Club, a Madras Club, a China Club, and a Bombay Club, which were frequented chiefly by merchants and bankers who had been engaged in business at those different trade centres. They were associations rather than clubs, and differed very widely from those luxurious homes which Club members are now supposed to frequent. I have before me the rules and regulations of one of these associations—the Bombay Club—which had its habitation at 13 Albemarle Street. That habitation appears to have consisted of one large news-room and an ante-room, which were to be opened at 10 A.M. and closed at midnight. Light refreshments could be supplied by the porter, but smoking on the premises was strictly prohibited.

The question of refreshment, the serious and important

daily item of dinner, must have been a great trial to our fathers and predecessors, who after long years abroad found themselves stranded in London. Even if one of them, when strolling down Bond Street in the afternoon, met an old Indian chum who was fortunate in being a member of one of the then existing clubs, the latter could not invite him to dinner. Not for many many years did club committees acquire a comprehension of the fact that by allowing the stranger within their gates they increased their profits and attracted new members. In fact, it was only when a want of candidates began to be felt that absolute exclusion from the inner sanctum ceased to exist.

Moore and Byron, in the early months of their acquaintance, dined frequently together, but Moore belonged to Wattier's and Byron to the Alfred. Neither could invite the other to his club, and so they had to adjourn to the St. Alban's or to Stevens's in New Bond Street in order to partake of a meal in common.<sup>1</sup> Hotels were plentiful, but *taverns*, which were the forerunners of our restaurants, with any pretensions to good cooking, were not so numerous. Some of the old haunts of the wits, the gallants, and the students of the Stuart and early Georgian eras were still surviving in the City, the Strand, and Fleet Street; and further west were Slaughter's, in St. Martin's Lane, where Major Dobbin alighted on his return to London, after many years of absence;<sup>2</sup> the Blue Posts, in Cork Street, the Argyll Rooms, then somewhat celebrated for its *cuisine*, and the Thatched House Tavern, in St. James Street. This last had had a great reputation for private and public dinners for

<sup>1</sup> Moore's *Life of Byron*.

<sup>2</sup> *Vanity Fair*.

nearly two centuries, when, in 1863, it was partly demolished to make way for the Conservative Club-house and Thatched House Chambers, which now occupy the site of the old tavern. For many years it was customary for the batch of cadets of the Company's Military College at Addiscombe, who at midsummer and at Christmas terminated their course of studies in that institution, to hold a parting banquet in this building, before they were scattered abroad to the different Presidencies to which they were appointed.

There were a few theatres, notably Drury Lane, where, in 1823, for the first time real water was introduced on the stage in a piece called the 'Cataract of the Ganges;' Covent Garden, under the management of Charles Kemble; the Haymarket, where Miss Paton was playing *Susannah*; the Adelphi, Sadler's Wells, and the Coburg (afterwards called *Victoria*); two opera houses, His Majesty's, recently decorated outside by Mr. Nash, and the English Opera House (now the Lyceum), which was shortly afterwards destroyed by fire. The Olympic and the Circus (afterwards called the Surrey Theatre) were principally devoted to equestrian exercises, and Astley's Amphitheatre was under the management of the great Ducrow. There were no music-halls, but in summer-time fashion congregated at the Vauxhall Gardens, then in their prime; for in 1823 there passed through the turnstiles the largest number ever known to visit them. The Zoological Gardens were not yet in existence, and to see the lions one had to travel to the Tower of London.

Such were the resources that the Indian community had for enjoying life in London on their return home after long

periods of service abroad; and it can hardly be a matter of surprise that some of them took to gambling very deeply, and that others went back to India long before their furloughs had expired.

Suffering from the great disadvantages that I have endeavoured to depict, and yet possessing some elements, although inadequate for club life, in the form of the associations that have been mentioned, it is somewhat surprising that Indian Society in London had not joined together all their resources at an earlier date than 1824, and founded one central institution where they could meet on an equal footing; but, as is frequently the case, the leading spirit, or, as we should call him to-day, the promoter, was for a long time wanting.

He turned up in London in 1822, in the person of Major-General Sir John Malcolm, G.C.B. Malcolm was not a Highlander, but he was a Scotchman, born at Burnfoot, near Langholm, Dumfriesshire, in 1769. His parents were George Malcolm and Margaret, sister of Admiral Sir Thomas Pasley. They must have had a family both numerically and physically *large*. There were at least ten sons, four of whom won their knightly spurs, and are mentioned in our national biographies. Admiral Sir Poulteney Malcolm, G.C.M.G., G.C.B. (1768-1838), the third; Sir John, the fourth; and Vice-Admiral Sir Charles Malcolm (1782-1851), the tenth of the brothers, were members of our Club, and all three were fine and stalwart men. It is said that at the age of ten John was presented to the Court of Directors, and was nominated a military cadet, and he was only fourteen when he actually joined the Madras Army. His

career forms part of the history of British India, and his life has been portrayed by many able biographers. They all concur in designating him a distinguished military officer and an able diplomatist, and so undoubtedly he was; but he possessed other characteristics, which gave him a pre-eminence amongst men of his time.

He was highly favoured by Nature, being a man of great stature and strength, with a pleasant, kindly face and a soft good heart. Open-handed almost to the point of extravagance, animated with gorgeous views of the demands of Eastern hospitality, and determined that the missions that he headed should not compare unfavourably with the Courts to which he was accredited, his lavish generosity and his princely munificence somewhat astonished the magnates of Leadenhall Street; but he was ably supported by the Governor-General, who recognised the necessity of considerable expenditure, and Malcolm himself was always ready to take upon his own shoulders a portion of the heavy burden of extraordinary outlay.

His personality, his stateliness, and his mastership of their languages, gave him vast influence amongst the native Princes and their followers, and his pomposity and verbosity struck them with awe.

That he was a great talker is unquestionable, and it is stated that it was Mr. Canning who bestowed upon Sir John the title of 'Bahauder Jaw.'<sup>1</sup> There is another story, that at Lord Wellesley's table Malcolm, then a major, mentioned as a notable fact that he and three of his brothers had once met together in India. 'Impossible, Malcolm, quite

<sup>1</sup> Yule's *Glossary of Anglo-Indian Words*.



impossible ! ' said the Governor-General. Malcolm persisted. ' No, no, ' said Lord Wellesley, ' if four Malcolms had met, we should have heard the noise all over India. '

With Europeans, too, of all classes he had great influence, and he was spoken of as ' Lord Wellesley's factotum and the greatest man in Calcutta. '

He was a ' lucky ' man, lucky in making powerful friends. Sir Alured Clarke, Commander-in-Chief of Madras, met him accidentally during a voyage to India, and made him Private Secretary ; Lord Harris continued him in that appointment ; Colonel Wellesley, afterwards the Great Duke, took to him strongly, and through his influence he became Private Secretary to the Duke's elder brother, the Marquis Wellesley, Governor-General of India. Lucky, too, in marrying the daughter of the Commander-in-Chief of the Madras Army in 1807. This lady was Isabella Charlotte, second daughter of Colonel Alexander Campbell, who was afterwards created a baronet and K.C.B. for his services in the Peninsula. Even in the field he was lucky, for at Mehadpore, where he and Sir Thomas Hislop defeated the Mahrattas under the younger Holkar, his share of that successful engagement was due to his personal gallantry in leading a charge at a fortunate moment without any regard to the ordinary rules of strategy and tactics.

But he, too, had had his bad times. During his long service he had been frequently at home on furlough or sick leave, and had suffered the comparative isolation and the loss of consequence resulting from the anomalous position of a Company's officer in London however celebrated he might be.

At one time he was here for five years trying to get an appointment through the influence of friends on the Board of Control or of his powerful patron, the Duke of Wellington. But for the moment they could not help him, and sheer poverty drove him back to India in 1816, where he hoped to get at least the command of a regiment.

In 1822 he returned home with the intention of remaining there for the rest of his life, and settled down with his family at Frant, a pretty little Sussex village, close to Tunbridge Wells, where in later years a still more celebrated diplomatist, Lord Stratford de Redcliffe, the Great Elchi, lived and died.

As already stated, in 1824 there were in London a considerable number of King's officers and of Indian officials, both military and civil, recently released from active service, and to most of them the great reputation of Sir John Malcolm was well known, and they were all willing to follow where he might lead.

The idea of creating an institution called 'The Oriental Club' was probably conceived in the rooms of the Royal Asiatic Society at 14 Grafton Street, where, as it has been already stated, it was customary for gentlemen from India to assemble, for it was in that house that on February 24, 1824, a meeting was held, under the presidency of Sir John Malcolm, to consider what measures should be taken to carry the proposal into effect, and it was then resolved: 'That it appears to this meeting to be desirable to form a society on the plan set forth in the following prospectus, to be called the *Oriental Club*.' A second resolution was also passed, nominating a number of gentlemen to constitute the Committee.

The full prospectus, with the remarkable roll of general and field officers of the King's and Company's services, of naval officers of high rank, of distinguished diplomatists and politicians, of well-known bankers, of directors of the great Company, and of their civil servants, whose family names can be traced from the earliest occupation of India through all its history up to the present time, will be found in an Appendix at the end of this work, and an original copy of the document itself is religiously preserved in the Club drawing-room encased in glass. All our old heroes have long been gathered to their fathers, but the names of many of them survive in history. I could dwell with pleasure on the careers of others who just touched the border-line of celebrity without attaining to a biographical notice; but at this point it would be out of place, and it will suffice to state that His Grace the Duke of Wellington, K.G., accepted the Presidency of the Club, and that Major-General Sir John Malcolm, G.C.B., K.L.S., was appointed its first chairman. K.L.S., by-the-by, stands for Knight of the Lion and the Sun, an Order which is stated to have been specially created in honour of Sir John, when envoy to the Court of Persia, and which by the union of the emblems of England and Persia was intended to portray the friendship existing between those two countries.

Briefly summarizing the prospectus, the objects in establishing the Club are stated to be: First, to give to persons who have been long resident abroad the means of entering, on their return, into a society where they will not only associate daily with those they have before known but where they will have an opportunity of forming acquaintances



and connections in their own country ; secondly, to give to those who have resided or served abroad the easy means of meeting old friends, and of keeping up their knowledge of the actual state of our Eastern Empire by personal intercourse and friendship with those recently returned from scenes in which they have once acted ; and, thirdly—well, thirdly, we are to do a sort of schoolmaster's work, to impart knowledge regarding the past and present condition of the East and to assist in strengthening home ties with that quarter ; duties which, I fear, we have very indifferently performed.

The qualifications for membership are—having been resident or employed in the public service of His Majesty or the East India Company in any part of the East, belonging to the Royal Asiatic Society, being officially connected with the administration of our Eastern Governments abroad or at home. Members of the Bengal, Madras, Bombay, India and China Clubs are invited to join the Oriental as original members.

The entrance fee was fixed at 15*l.* and the annual subscription at 6*l.* ; and, finally, it was decided that so soon as the names of 400 members should have been enrolled a general meeting would be called to arrange the permanent establishment of the Club. At the outset it was intended that the number of members should not exceed 600.

A somewhat curious plea in favour of the creation of such an institution appears in the 'East India Military Calendar' of 1824. The editor is deploring the loss of life amongst military men consequent on their prolonged stay abroad, and continues as follows : 'The Oriental Club, lately established

in London, from the economical advantages it holds out to persons returning from India, will, it is presumed, put a stop to the protracted residence of individuals in the East, from which habits are acquired that render them unequal to the active enjoyments and pleasures of this country. It will be seen by the prospectus of this establishment that the retired pay of officers will enable them to live in London with that respectability and those comforts their station in society renders so essential.'

When once the preliminaries as previously mentioned had been settled, rapid progress was made.

A second meeting, with the Chairman presiding, was held at the Thatched House Tavern on Monday, April 5, and exactly a week afterwards, on the 12th, the Committee assembled in the home of the Bombay Club, 13 Albemarle Street, the members of which kindly offered the use of their rooms until the 30th of that month, when their lease would expire. At this meeting General Haldane, C.B., Colonel Rankin, and Messrs. J. Elphinstone, C. E. Pigou, and Thomas Snodgrass were appointed a sub-committee to prepare a code of rules and regulations for the government of the Club, and the Chairman himself undertook to look about for temporary premises.

It is curious that the first offer of house-room emanated from the very Square in which we afterwards fixed our permanent quarters. It was made by Mr. Blake, proprietor of the Brunswick House Hotel, who offered to let his house, but the offer was not accepted, the arrangements of the building not being found suitable to club purposes.

Before long, however, a residence was selected to meet all

requirements for the time being at No. 16 Lower Grosvenor Street, and here, on June 7, 1824, the first annual general meeting of members of the Oriental Club was held, under the presidency of Sir John Malcolm.

The prefix 'Lower' is no longer applied to any part of Grosvenor Street, but our early home is still numbered 16, and is now occupied by Messrs. Collard & Collard, the celebrated pianoforte manufacturers, who established their business there upwards of forty years ago. Through the courtesy of Mr. John Collard, a member of the firm, I have been permitted to inspect the interior of the house, and have learnt something of its history. It is situated on the north side of Grosvenor Street, on which it has a long frontage. Externally it is a tall red-brick building with a large number of windows, having all the appearance of a barrack, and with the peculiarity that at the eastern end there are two lofty porticoed doors immediately adjoining. Internally it has all the characteristics of a princely or noble residence. The reception-rooms are large, lofty, well proportioned and handsomely decorated, and the buildings in their rear surround a courtyard and stretch far away to the back. It is said to have been the town mansion of the Dukes of Rutland, the fifth of the title being the last who occupied it, and from him it was acquired by a Mr. Seddons, who was a fashionable upholsterer and furniture dealer in the early part of the nineteenth century.

Readers of Thackeray may remember that Mr. Joseph Sedley, Collector of Boggley Wallah, engaged about 1827 'a comfortable house of a second or third-rate order in Gillespie Street, purchasing the carpets, costly mirrors, and handsome

and appropriately planned furniture, by Seddons, from the assignees of Mr. Scape.'<sup>1</sup>

This Seddons was the owner of No. 16 when the Committee were searching for a home, and he was well pleased to let it, for his intention had been to establish a magnificent furniture emporium in the house; but it is said that he encountered great difficulties in collecting large sums of money owing to him by reputed wealthy customers, amongst whom royalty was represented, and he was obliged to relinquish his idea.

Our Committee agreed to take the lower part of the house furnished at a rental of 1,200*l.* per annum, should we only remain one year, and at 1,100*l.* if we stayed for a longer period, the proprietor undertaking to pay all rates and taxes and to do all repairs, and, furthermore, to make a separate entrance to our premises, and to build a short staircase inside the house for our use. Thus we account for one of the two adjoining porticoed doors, and I was, moreover, able to explain to Mr. Collard the reason why a staircase, the existence of which had long puzzled him, and for which there is now absolutely no purpose, had been erected, to the great detriment of the present entrance-hall.

At the first annual general meeting, on June 7, 1824, Sir John Malcolm, Lieut.-Colonel Rankin, and Messrs. Henry Alexander, Robert Campbell, Andrew Macklew, and Charles E. Pigon were appointed trustees, and it was decided to open the house to members on the 8th of the following month.

The Sub-Committee already mentioned rendered their report, and a staff of servants was immediately engaged. It

<sup>1</sup> *Vanity Fair.*

consisted of nine men and eight females, and our first steward was a Mr. Pottanco, who had been for many years in the employment of Sir John Malcolm.

Orders were given for a supply of plate, glass and china, cutlery, linen, lamps, and kitchen utensils, at a cost not to exceed 3,000*l.*; and creature comforts were not forgotten, for Messrs. Keir & Co., of Madeira, were requested to furnish two pipes of their choicest wine at a price of which the items were the following :

	£	s.	d.
First cost of a pipe on the island . . . .	46	0	0
Freight by way of India to London . . . .	7	0	0
Insurance on 50 <i>l.</i> and policy . . . . .	3	0	0
Duties and dock charges . . . . .	42	0	0
	<hr/>		
	98	0	0

A notice was placed in the coffee-room that the prices on the bill of fare would be regulated, so far as circumstances permit, by those of the Union Club; and it was added that the 'table-money,' or charge for bread, potatoes, cheese, table-beer, and the cruet would be sixpence each person. The last item has a strong flavour of the seaside lodging-house.

The price of the 'house dinner,' including dessert, was to be 12*s.* each person, and the hours for dining were six o'clock from November 1 to March 31, and seven o'clock for the other half-year.

The first presents reported on the minutes are the portrait of Stringer Lawrence, already mentioned, from Mr. Snodgrass, the earliest offering to our collection of pictures; his work on Persia, from Sir John Malcolm, the commencement of our Library; and a fine turtle from Sir Charles Forbes, a polite attention to the new *chef*.

The list of members was very quickly filled up, and at the annual general meeting in May, 1826, it was announced that the total number amounted to 928, of whom 630 were active members present in England. Several questions regarding the eligibility of candidates were submitted to the Committee, as, for instance, a writer in the service of the East India Company, who was employed at home and had never been in India, offered himself and was deemed eligible; so also were two gentlemen holding inferior situations under the Board of Control; but a lieutenant of the Royal Navy just returned from Asia Minor was not considered eligible. No reasons are assigned for these decisions, which scarcely appear to be in accord with the regulations of the Club then in force.

Meanwhile strenuous efforts were being made to find a suitable habitation for the Club, or a site on which to build one. Captain Tyler, as already stated, offered No. 20 Hanover Square; Lord Carnarvon had two houses to dispose of, No. 4 Tenterden Street and a house in Grosvenor Square at the north-west corner of Charles Street, but the former would not be available for five years—as a matter of fact, it was already let to the Royal Academy of Music; and the latter was a leasehold at 200*l.* per annum, and was only fit to be pulled down.

Another house in Grosvenor Square brought to the notice of the Committee was that of Lady Bridgewater, and Sir Claud Scott submitted his residence in Cavendish Square.

Offers of Lady Carhampton's house in Bruton Street, and of Anglesey House in Burlington Street, which was about to be sold, were seriously entertained, and a tender of 30,000*l.* for the house and fixtures was actually made to the Marquis of Anglesey and declined.



Ultimately it was decided at the annual general meeting in May 1825 that the limits for the choice of a suitable house should be Cavendish Square on the north, Pall Mall on the south, Regent Street on the east, and Grosvenor Square on the west. Within this closely defined area a site was shortly found which seemed to meet the requirements of the Committee—namely, that on which was standing the residence of Mr. Alexander, No. 18 Hanover Square, but before serious efforts were made to acquire this property the sum of 12,000*l.* was offered for the house of Mr. Seddons, in which the Club was then domiciled.

This offer was declined, and Messrs. Goodeve & Ranken, solicitors, of 4 Holborn Court, Gray's Inn, were instructed to enter into negotiations for the purchase of Mr. Alexander's house.

That gentleman agreed to accept the sum of 14,300*l.* for the house, fixtures, and stables; but he stated that a portion of the land on which the latter stood was not freehold, but held under a Corporation lease renewable for ever on payment of a fine of 25*l.* every seven years. There was also a quit rent of 3*l.* 15*s.* per annum, and a further sum of 40*l.* payable every forty-six years. Mr. Alexander made a further condition before closing the bargain—namely, that he had promised the refusal of the house to Lord Le Despencer, from whom he had purchased it, and that before selling he must make his Lordship the offer.

Ultimately the title-deeds were examined by Mr. Poole, an eminent conveyancer, who pronounced them to be unobjectionable, and the Committee took possession of the property on August 21, 1826.



The architect selected to adapt the premises for a club-house, or to construct a new building on the site of Mr. Alexander's house, was Mr. Benjamin Dean Wyatt.

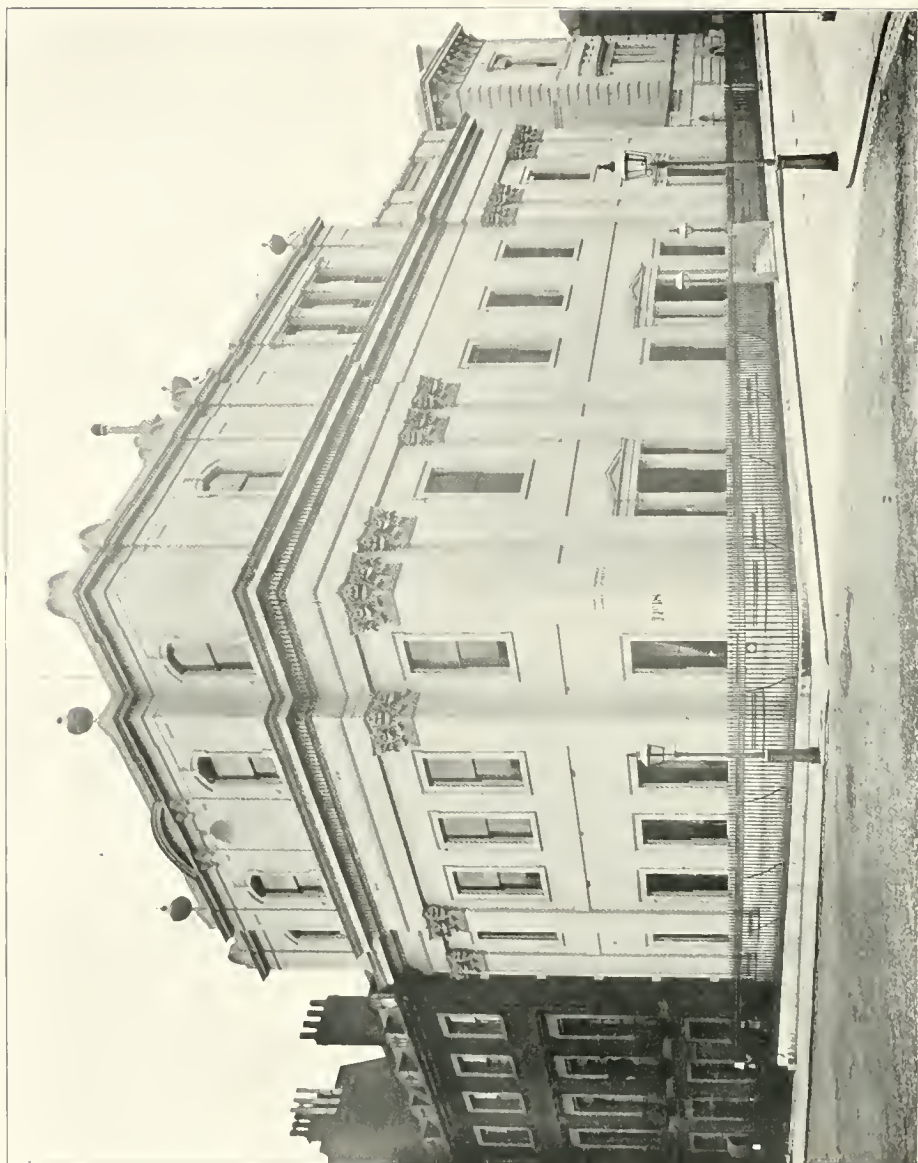
This gentleman and his brother Philip were very prominent figures in the construction of public and private buildings at the time of which I am writing. Their father, James Wyatt, also an architect, held a high place in his profession, and the sons entered on their career under his superintendence.

But the elder, Benjamin, swerved from the direct course and temporarily adopted a line of life which gave him a claim on the Committee as an Orientalist himself.

He was educated at Christ Church, Oxford, and in 1802 he was made private secretary to Sir Arthur Wellesley, and accompanied him to Ireland and India. On his return to England he re-entered the profession, and succeeded his father as Surveyor to Westminster Abbey, and while holding this appointment he carried out the undertakings that brought his name into prominence. Among these may be mentioned the alterations in Apsley House, by desire of his patron the Duke of Wellington, the building of Londonderry House in Park Lane, of Crockford's Club-house, St. James's Street, in 1827, and the erection of the column in Waterloo Place on which stands the statue of the Duke of York by Westmacott. There was nothing remarkable in any of the buildings that were created under Mr. Wyatt's supervision, but they display a certain versatility of idea, and are all stated to have been made of the best material and of lasting quality.

Mr. Wyatt recommended that the old house should be razed to the ground, and the material sold by auction. This advice was followed, and the plans that he submitted for a





THE ORIENTAL CLUB, 1901  
18 HANOVER SQUARE

Club-house were, after a good deal of controversy, accepted by the Committee, and afterwards by the members of the Club, assembled in general meeting. The controversy turned on two points—the situation of the billiard-rooms and the position of the front door or principal entrance to the Club. No provision was made for a smoking-room in the plans submitted by Mr. Wyatt, nor do the members appear to have deemed one to be necessary ; but there was a large party who urged that two billiard-rooms should be fitted on the ground floor, and their opposition was only overcome by giving them one and promising that in any future additions to the Club-house their wishes should receive the fullest consideration.

Oddly enough, in the second point that gave rise to a difference of opinion the female element entered largely.

The occupant of No. 16 in the Square, himself a member of the Club, was the fortunate father of daughters, young and fair to look upon, and his opposition to an entrance into the Club from the Square was based on a proper paternal care for his offspring.

He objected strongly to the bucks and dandies standing on the doorsteps and looking directly into his house, as he stated would be the case ; such a proceeding would destroy the privacy of his home and curtail the liberty of its inmates.

What may have been the feelings of the young ladies themselves on the subject we are not told, but ultimately the case was decided against the supposed bucks and dandies, for a reason entirely unconnected with the grace and beauty of our opposite neighbours. The architect informed the Committee that the entrance must of necessity be from Tenterden Street, as otherwise the formation of the ground would render

it impossible for him to construct a large coffee-room of the requisite dimensions.

The house built up under Mr. Wyatt's guidance is the large square block which stands at the north-west corner of Hanover Square, but, as designed and created by him, it only had one tier of windows above the ground floor, the second floor being a later addition.

The plan which obtains in Eastern countries of removing the *bawarchi-khana* from the bungalow, so far as possible, in order to prevent the odours from the kitchen penetrating to the dwelling-house, has evidently been followed in the arrangement of the house, for the kitchens are situated at a distance of 75 feet from the dining-rooms. The coffee-room is certainly a very handsome apartment, with a frontage of 60 feet to the Square and of 30 feet to Tenterden Street, without pillars or other support to the ceilings (embellished and decorated by Collman) than its four walls.

The entrance-hall was large and lofty, for it was completely open from the members' coffee-room to that which is now called the strangers' dining-room, in those early days divided into two apartments, one of which was a billiard-room and the other was called the small dining-room.

The provision for visitors was of the most meagre description. A little room without light or fresh air, which is now used as a supplementary butler's pantry, and which is situated at the very back of the building, was the only accommodation assigned to them, and was called the 'waiting-room.'

The grand staircase, in the very centre of the building, is the most remarkable architectural feature of the house. It is lighted by a skylight in the roof, which is supported on

lofty pillars reaching from the first floor to the top of the building, and is broad, handsome, and easy to surmount.

The drawing-room is built over the members' coffee-room, and is equally large and lofty. The libraries now occupy the whole frontage to Tenterden Street of the original building, but as at first designed they were divided into two rooms, one of which was a card-room. There was one other room built over part of the strangers' dining-room, which was used by the secretary; and if bath-rooms, lavatories, &c., be added, the whole accommodation offered to 600 members has been summed up. It appears exceedingly small as compared with modern requirements, but the fact is that before the introduction of smoking on a general scale the members would scatter all over the house, and probably in every room they would find a snuff-box if they had omitted to bring one with them. Snuff was, in those days, the usual form in which the noxious weed was consumed, and probably the few smokers of pipes or cheroots indulged in their habit in the entrance-hall, for no other provision was made for them. If the weed be noxious in the form of smoking, then it may be said, to the credit of the Orientalists, that a large majority opposed its introduction by tooth and nail; and long, long years elapsed before successive committees arrived at the conclusion that accommodation had of necessity to be afforded to a minority that was growing daily more powerful.

So recently as 1870—or, should I rather say, *so far back as* 1870—I remember walking into a club, of which I was then a member, smoking a cigarette. Cigarette-smoking at that time was unusual in London, and as I mounted the stairs I heard a colloquy between a member and the hall-



porter: 'Who is that?' 'Mr. So-and-so; I think he's a foreigner, sir.'

Nowadays the smokers are in the majority; our beautiful drawing-room is a dreary waste, occupied now and then by half a dozen members, calmly sleeping with novels in their hands; while the smoking-room, to-day a legitimate adjunct to the Club, the existence of which has been duly sanctioned by the members in general assembly, is frequently overcrowded, as also are the billiard-rooms.

On September 1, 1828, the original Club-house in Lower Grosvenor Street was finally abandoned, and the members took possession of the premises that have continued to be their home for upwards of seventy years.

The furniture was supplied by Messrs. Dowbiggin, a firm of eminent upholsterers, whose timber must have been well seasoned, for the frames of their chairs and ottomans are still perfectly sound. The cellars were well stocked, at that time by direct purchase, and among other items are mentioned a puncheon of whisky at a cost of 82*l.* from Fraser of Brackla, a hogshead of brandy for 68*l.*, and a supply of Bronté wine.

The total cost of the freehold and leasehold properties, and of the building, furniture, &c., amounted to 46,000*l.*, and our indebtedness for money on debentures and loans was no less than 25,500*l.*

The records of the Club are not numerous, but those which exist are continuous and in a good state of preservation. They consist of the original lists of candidates and of the minutes of proceedings at the annual general meetings and at the weekly meetings of the Committee of Management, all of them commencing in the year 1824.



I entered upon the work of examining these books with a light heart, but I soon found that I had undertaken a serious and not very edifying labour. The minutes of weekly meetings are very full and exact, but seldom interesting. The steward, the *chef*, and the housekeeper are in attendance, and each renders a report of his or her department, for in those early times there appears to have been no central control, and in consequence there was frequently a good deal of friction.

Ways and means are considered, accounts are settled, and backed-bills—that is to say, the complaints of members regarding the food and its cooking set forth on the back of the account presented to them—are duly noted, and the Secretary is instructed to send a suitable reply. It is remarkable how persistent some members are in finding fault; the same name appears on the back of his bill week after week, until at length the owner goes abroad or leaves the Club.

Sometimes in self-defence the Committee determined to change the butcher, the fishmonger, the tea merchants, or some other tradesman, but the complaints still continue, and they shortly return to their old love. Mr. Milestone, of Swallow Passage, supplied the Club with fish in 1824, and Mr. Milestone, of the same place, continues to do so in 1901; Messrs. Twining were our earliest tea merchants, and Messrs. Twining continue to supply us to this day. Here and there we pick out some little matters of interest that cast a light on the vast difference in the ways and manner of life of our predecessors in the first quarter of the last century as compared with our own.

## CHAPTER III

## EARLY RECORDS

ONE of the earliest requests addressed to the Committee is that they will be good enough to have a horse-block erected at the side of the entrance in Tenterden Street, and thus we are reminded that the means of locomotion were very restricted, and that the journeys about town had to be made on foot, on horseback, or in a hackney coach.

Cabriolets, uncomfortable one-horsed vehicles, in which the passengers sat by the side of the driver, were just being introduced, but there were not more than a score of them plying for hire, and Mr. Shillibeer had not yet placed his first omnibus on the road between Paddington and the Bank of England.

The Paving Board decline to allow the erection of a horse-block because the street is too narrow, and a compromise is effected whereby a wooden chair is to be kept in the hall, for the use of old or portly members who find a difficulty in getting into the saddle; and a man is appointed to fetch hackney coaches for those who prefer to drive, at a charge of 2*d.* for each call.

At one meeting the Secretary is instructed to call the attention of the police magistrate to the large number of idlers who hang around the door, waiting to lead about the

members' horses ; and casually it is mentioned that, although there are rarely more than ten or a dozen horses, there are three times that number of hangers-on.

Imagine for a moment ten or a dozen well-groomed cobs and thoroughbreds being led in procession round and round Hanover Square. At the present day it would be an attraction to us that would outrival those that we now possess—the visits of fair women in elegant carriages to the fashionable *modiste* who rules the establishment in front of us, and the coming and going of the no less fair students to and from the Royal Academy of Music.

And let us for a moment stretch our imagination a little further and picture to ourselves the ten or twelve dismounted cavaliers taking their ease within the Club-house.

They differ from us very widely in dress, in manner, and in habits.

Their coats are swallow-tailed, blue, green, or brown in colour, with high rolled collars and glittering steel or brass buttons ; their waistcoats are gorgeous in hue ; their nether-garments are breeches and Hessian boots in winter, or white ducks tightly strapped under the Wellingtons in summer ; linen collars are just growing into fashion, but several gentlemen only wear a stock or scarf of many colours folded several times round the throat ; and their hats—their hats are of real beaver, broad at the top and in the brim, and low in the crown. They jingle their spurs, they strike their boots with their hand-canes ; they take snuff, and call for beer, and they swear, ah ! how they *do* swear !

I have just a faint recollection of two brothers, both of them colonels in the Company's service, and both of them

members of the Club. They were not only on very friendly terms, but between them there was a real affection, and yet they never met, never saluted one another, without a strong expletive, not to say a curse, upon their lips. It meant absolutely nothing, but they followed what had been the fashion in the days of the Regency and of George IV.

Nowadays our conversation is quiet and sober—*too* quiet, to my idea; men speak in subdued tones, and the member with a loud healthy voice is regarded as a nuisance. I have on occasions felt grateful to the one or two remaining members of the old school who give vent to their feelings in strong language. Sober, too, are our garments, as becomes a body of sedate, and for the most part elderly gentlemen, but now and then one of them appears in a wondrous costume of dittoes, with the adjuncts of knickerbockers, stockings, &c.

It was calculated in early days that the consumption of snuff cost the Club 25*l.* a year, and frequently an order for the purchase of a dozen boxes, with the Club crest, appears on the books. Now we have two boxes, and I question whether we consume so many *pinches* as we then spent pounds.

There was one relic of old riding days that lasted for a long time, and I do not remember when it died out, but it cannot be many years ago. That was the practice of our tailors to fix strap-buttons on every pair of trousers, whether the wearer was a rider or otherwise. They still oblige us to wear ornamental buttons on our coat cuffs, although the necessity for opening the sleeves ceased to exist when lace ruffles went out of fashion; but with a careful eye to economy they left off the use of the invisible buttons on the trousers so

soon as exercise on horseback became a pastime and a means of preserving health instead of a necessity.

Shortly after we occupied our permanent premises there was a disturbance late one night amongst the domestics, some of whom had been indulging too freely, and the porter called in the *watchman* to restore order. It was before Sir Robert Peel remodelled the force that maintained order throughout the metropolis, and the guardians were then called *watchmen*, and it appears to have taken some years before the words *constable* and *policeman* were generally adopted.

Sometimes fracas between members themselves are brought to the notice of the Committee. The first one of moment occurred while Sir John Malcolm was in England, and he was especially requested to preside over an extraordinary general meeting, convened for the purpose of considering the remarkable conduct of a member. Certainly it was remarkable, for he deliberately went up to another member seated at dinner and struck him in the face, a member to whom he had never spoken, and who stated that he had not previously known his assailant even by sight.

The mystery was never cleared up. The recalcitrant member was living in Holles Street, in the immediate vicinity of the Club, and sent his servant daily for his letters, so that he was duly advised that an explanation of his conduct was demanded, and that if not given to the satisfaction of the Committee serious consequences would follow.

He took no notice, and at the extraordinary general meeting he was expelled the Club.

A sad case was that of an Indian civil servant of high standing, an original member of the Club, who had generously

presented to it one of the portraits that adorn our walls. He damaged the furniture to such an extent that on several occasions his conduct was brought to the notice of the Committee. At last it was reported that in the course of one week he had partially destroyed fourteen chairs, and he was then informed that he could no longer be admitted within the portals. Before further action was taken, the Committee were informed that a Commission in Lunacy had been appointed with regard to the unfortunate gentleman, and they were requested to state what they knew about him.

One disagreement brought to the notice of a Committee meeting has an old-world flavour about it. A member had engaged a table by placing upon it an inverted plate, in accordance, as he said, with the custom of the Club, and another member removed the plate and occupied the table. Hence a complaint.

According to our unwritten by-laws, tables can only be engaged a short time before they are actually required ; but the point in dispute in the present case was not as to a breach of any rule, but simply whether the complainant had secured a right to the use of a particular table by inverting a plate upon it.

The Committee considered that he had done so, and thereby would seem to recognize the existence of the custom, but they afford us no information as to whence it arose, or as to the grounds of their decision. I find that after the lapse of three-quarters of a century that custom still exists, and I cannot learn that it obtains in any other club than the Oriental.

The usual method of securing a seat at a table by turning



down a chair is not practicable in our coffee-room, for the reason that the chairs are all placed in a row against the walls, and in front of each one is a little mahogany table 42 inches square, so it was probably necessary to show by some other sign when a table had been engaged. But this peculiar sign that we employ does not appear to have originated in the Club, for Thackeray mentions that it was used in Slaughter's, a very old coffee-house in St. Martin's Lane, which was established in 1692, and was finally demolished in 1843.

The mention of Thackeray brings to mind the frequent references made by the great novelist and humorist to our Club in 'Vanity Fair,' 'The Newcomes,' and others of his works. These references are very accurate and correct, and probably he honoured us with his presence on several occasions; but of that we have no record, for the early visitors' books have unfortunately been destroyed. Speaking of Mr. Joseph Sedley and his first return to Europe when the last century was in its 'teens,' Thackeray writes in 'Vanity Fair:' 'He drove his horses in the Park; he dined at the fashionable taverns (for the Oriental Club was not as yet invented); he frequented the theatres; and so on;' but when the Collector comes home again in 1827 we are told that 'his very first point, of course, was to become a member of the Oriental Club, where he spent his mornings in the company of his brother Indians, where he dined, or whence he brought home men to dine.'

He does not take his friends there and ask them to dine with him, because at that date visitors were not admitted, but Lieutenant-Colonel Thomas Newcome, who appears in



London about 1851, when the rules regarding strangers had been somewhat relaxed, on one or two occasions entertains his friends in the Club-house.

This Colonel Newcome has a very great interest for me, because in plodding through the minutes of the Managing Committee I have frequently come across him, and I have had the advantage, which even Thackeray did not possess, of studying his character inside the walls of the Club.

‘My revered uncle seems to have brought back a quantity of cayenne pepper from India,’ said Barnes Newcome to his father, Sir Bryan, after a rather stormy scene in the Bank Parlour, and certainly the Colonel retained a little of it up to a late period of his life.

He was not a complaining Member—that is to say, he seldom backed his bills; but on one occasion he was served with a chop the cooking of which was not at all to his liking. The Committee used to meet in those days at two o’clock on Mondays, and, being then in session, the Colonel sent the chop itself straight up to them, so that they might have a palpable testimony of the *chef’s* deficiencies.

He writes, evidently angrily, that Messrs. Ind, Coope, the Club brewers, had refused to leave a cask of beer at his house (during his temporary absence) without the money being paid for it, and he hopes that the Committee will leave off dealing with Messrs. Ind, Coope for having treated one of the original members of the Club ‘with such rudeness;’ and he is still more angry on being informed that the Committee cannot interfere in private matters between individual members and their tradesmen.

He is fond of his cheroot, for he signs two petitions to the

Committee to furnish the members with better smoking accommodation, and he takes an interest in the cellars, for he strongly recommends that two parcels of wine shall be received into them on trial.

I scarcely think that it came from Mr. Sherrick's vaults under Lady Whittlesea's chapel, where Mr. Honeyman preached, for it was very cheap. The Committee tried samples of burgundy at 15s. per dozen, and of port at 28s., and they informed the Colonel that they did not approve of them, and I think we should be grateful that they arrived at that decision, for otherwise we might still have his parcels in our cellars.

He takes great interest in mechanics' institutes, and requests that notices of lectures, to be given in a hall in Marylebone, may be permitted to lie upon the table; and he is very urgent that 'The Church and State Review' shall be included in the periodicals taken in by the Club. For some reason the Committee declined on more than one occasion to purchase the 'Review,' but the Colonel was persistent, and at length his wishes were gratified.

In 1863 there was a most unpleasant incident between two members of the Club, which became public property, for it was carried into a police-court. I will, however, avoid mentioning the names of the parties concerned, and it will suffice to say that the conduct of one of them was so outrageous that an extraordinary general meeting was summoned, and ultimately he was expelled.

Amongst other malicious acts that he perpetrated was that of sending libellous letters to several clubs of high standing, and one such letter was forwarded to our Committee,

and portrays the Colonel in a character in which he frequently appeared in Thackeray's history, that of a peacemaker.

This letter, addressed to the Reform Club, states that 'my medical attendant has since been besieged by many well-meaning and well-intended members of the Oriental Club, one a General Charles Carmichael, who urged that as the meeting would be a packed one (packed by the Committee) . . . I had better resign.'

A copy of this letter was sent to General Carmichael, and in reply he wrote: 'That, so far from calling the meeting a packed one, I told him (the member), *when he so designated it*, that it could not possibly be called a *packed* meeting, as it had been publicly advertised in the Club for three or four weeks before it took place;' and he adds that the member must therefore have completely misunderstood him, but he does not think it worth while to have any further correspondence on the subject.

This correspondence is the last entry that I find in our minutes relating to Major-General Charles Montauban Carmichael, C.B., Colonel of the 20th Hussars,<sup>1</sup> the prototype of that gallant officer and honourable gentleman, Colonel Thomas Newcome, C.B., whose career, as depicted by Thackeray, will be read so long as the British public can appreciate the value of a domestic novel, devoid of unhealthy stimulants, and masterly in its language.

With the exception of Mrs. Carmichael-Smyth, wife of Major Henry Carmichael-Smyth, of the Bengal Engineers, Thackeray's stepfather, the numerous members of his family

<sup>1</sup> Formerly the 2nd European Bengal Light Cavalry.

never appear to have formed a decided opinion as to which of their relatives was the prototype of Colonel Newcome.

Anne (Mrs. Ritchie), a daughter of the novelist, writes as follows : 'I never heard my father say that, when he wrote Colonel Newcome, any special person was in his mind, but it was always an understood thing that my step-grandfather (Major Carmichael-Smyth) had many of Colonel Newcome's characteristics, and there was also a brother of the Major's, General Charles Carmichael, who was very like Colonel Newcome in looks ; a third family Colonel Newcome was Sir Richmond Shakespear, and how many more are there not present, and yet to come ? '

The late Sir William Hunter, in his interesting work, 'The Thackerays in India,' also ascribes to the character of Colonel Newcome 'something of the chivalrous cousin, Sir Richmond Shakespear ;' but on another page he writes : 'The eldest son, Colonel John Dowdeswell Shakespear, a noble, chivalrous figure, was believed in the family to have formed the original of "Colonel Newcome."'

These members of the Shakespear family, and no fewer than eight of that of Carmichael, have all been on the roll of the Club at different periods, and about one half of them were in the military service of the East India Company, but the only one who corresponds to Colonel Newcome is the Charles M. Carmichael already mentioned.

In her 'Introduction' to 'The Newcomes,' Mrs. Ritchie writes that the story had been in her father's mind for a long time, and that he began the preface in July 1853. In the novel itself the actual dates on which the different events occurred are not specified, but sufficient data are given to

indicate very approximately the year in which the history of Colonel Newcome's life in London commences. Take, for instance, the conversation in the window of Bays's, the club of Mr. Barnes Newcome, Sir Thomas de Boots, Mr. Horace Fogey, and others. Mr. Fogey inquires whether the fleet has left Cronstadt, or has it not? and remarks: 'This is very uncomfortable news from India, that movement of Runjeet Singh on Peshawar; that fleet on the Irrawaddy!'

There is a good deal of the novelist's license in the above medley, for Runjeet Singh had long since been gathered to his fathers, but owing to some difference with the Russian Government there was a talk of sending the fleet to Cronstadt in 1851-52, and in that same year Commodore Lambert blockaded the Irrawaddy.

This, therefore, was the year in which Lieutenant-Colonel Newcome returned from India after no less than thirty-four years' absence from home. Furthermore, we know that he had been educated at Charterhouse and that he wore a black moustache and the grey uniform of the Bengal Cavalry, with its silver lace and a little bit of red ribbon.

Up to a certain point the careers of Thomas Newcome and Charles Carmichael are almost identical. The latter was born in 1790, was at Charterhouse from 1801 to 1805, and received his first appointment to the Bengal Army in that year. He became a lieutenant-colonel in 1838 and commanded the 4th Bengal Irregular Cavalry in the first Afghan War, for which he received the Ghuznee medal and was created a Knight of the Third Class of the Dooranee Empire and a Companion of the Order of the Bath, an



honour which was rarely conferred in those days upon Company's officers, and in the minutes of proceedings of February 3, 1851, the Secretary reports to our Committee that Colonel Carmichael has arrived from India and joined the Club.

Mrs. Carmichael-Smyth ascribes not only the characteristics of Colonel Newcome to her husband the Major, but also his personality.

Probably she was right in attributing to him many of the noble qualities that adorn the character of Thackeray's creation, and in assuming that the *mens* and *animus* are those of her consort, but I maintain that the *corpus* was that of his younger brother Charles. The following letter of recent date, addressed to me by Mr. David Freemantle Carmichael, nephew of the two officers referred to, and lately a member of the Council of the Viceroy and of our Club, serves in a great measure to confirm her view, and also to support my assertion :

‘When “The Newcomes” was coming out, I said to Thackeray, “I see where you got your Colonel.” “To be sure you would,” he replied, “only I had to *angelicise* the old boys a little.” By this he meant, his stepfather, Major Henry Carmichael-Smyth, and *his* younger brother, General Charles Carmichael. However, when the former died, travelling in Scotland, Thackeray had him buried where he died—in Ayr, I think—and some years after, when Thackeray was dead, and his mother (the Major's widow) dead also—she survived her son, poor old soul—Mrs. Ritchie put up a tablet to G. P., as she and her sister always called their grandmother's husband, inscribing that lovely passage from “The Newcomes”

ending with *Adsum*.<sup>1</sup> She thus of course showed that *she* claimed G. P. as the sole prototype of Colonel N. naturally enough !'

The statement of Mrs. Ritchie that General Charles Carmichael was very like Colonel Newcome in looks is confirmed by two of our surviving members who knew him personally ; and a near relative of my own, who was very intimate with him, used to call to mind that in the fifties the General was the only member of the Club who wore 'mustachios.'

He was an attractive figure, who appeared in the nick of time when Thackeray was designing his work, and the novelist at once adopted the dashing cavalry officer as his model and wove around him the 'memoirs of a most respectable family.'

I apologize for the above lengthy and unwarranted deviation from the proper course of events, which has arisen in consequence of the inversion of a dinner-plate, and I now return to my chronicle.

So soon as the members were established in their permanent home, measures were taken to form a library. At the outset no money was voted for the purpose, but a request was made to individuals to subscribe in kind, and it was ordered that a list be kept of all books presented.

A very generous response was made to the appeal, and Sir

<sup>1</sup> 'At the usual evening hour the chapel bell began to toll, and Thomas Newcome's hands outside the bed feebly beat time. And just as the last bell struck, a peculiar sweet smile shone over his face, and he lifted up his head a little, and quickly said "Adsum!" and fell back. It was the word we used at school when names were called ; and, lo ! he whose heart was as that of a little child, had answered to his name, and stood in the presence of The Master.'—*The Newcomes*.



John Malcolm, Sir George Staunton, and several others sent in their own published works, while Mr. G. L. Prendergast presented the Journals of the Houses of Lords and Commons complete from the earliest to the latest period in 152 volumes; the India Board sent a number of books and pamphlets relating to Indian affairs of a prior date to 1813; the Hon. Mountstuart Elphinstone, a large collection of classical works; and amongst other books which are now scarce are Forrest's 'Picturesque Tour on the Ganges and Jumna,' 'Oriental Drawings,' and the 'Chronique Georgienne,' presented by Dr. Julius Mohl, one of our earliest honorary members.

There are two entries of presents for which the grateful thanks of the Committee are accorded—namely, that of a letter from Fenimore Cooper to General Lafayette, and of a copy of Shakespeare's works, edition 1623; but the former seems to have disappeared, and I fear that the other was only a modern reprint. The shelves in one book-room were, however, very quickly filled, and in 1832 it was found necessary to annex the card-room to the library.

Elsewhere I refer at greater length to our portraits and pictures, but I may mention that it was in the early years of the Club's existence that many of them were acquired. Mr. Thomas Snodgrass, a very generous supporter of the institution, presented the portraits of General Stringer Lawrence and Sir Eyre Coote; Sir Charles Forbes gave us that of Warren Hastings; the portraits of the great Lord Clive and the Marquis Wellesley were presented to us by the Earl of Powis and Mr. Wilton respectively; and that of Sir Barry Close by his relative, Major Close.

Amongst miscellaneous gifts may be mentioned that of a very large terrestrial globe from Mr. Snodgrass, to which a mystery was attached as to the means by which it had found its way into a small room on the first floor, formerly a card-room, but now converted into a private dining-room, the door of which was too small to admit it. Recently it was decided to place it elsewhere, and to do so it was found necessary to take it through a window.

The name of Snodgrass has become familiar to the public owing to the fact that Charles Dickens applied that patronymic to one of the members of the 'Pickwick Club,' and in the early edition of 'The Posthumous Papers' there is a portrait of the poet by 'Phiz,' crowned with a wreath of laurel. Mr. Augustus Snodgrass is depicted with long hair, a Roman nose, and Byronic collar, characteristics which we are apt to attribute to poets in general; he is described in the body of the work as a man with apparently greater firmness of character than was possessed by any other member of the 'Corresponding Society of the Pickwick Club;' and he must, besides, have had certain amiable and attractive qualities to win in marriage the fair Miss Emily Wardle. There is, therefore, nothing offensive to bearers of the name of Snodgrass in the creation of Dickens, who is said to have discovered it at Chatham, where it was borne by a Mr. Gabriel Snodgrass, a shipbuilder in a large way of business, and the author of 'A Letter to Lord Dundas on the State of the British Navy.' I am unable to say where the family was originally located, but, although the name was and is rare and uncommon, there were several bearers of it in the early part of the last century who did good service in the King's and Company's employ.

Mr. Thomas Snodgrass, our member, had a somewhat curious career, and, as he disappears from my history in 1834, when death closed his connection with the Club, I may as well mention here what I know about him. As regards his family, he is said to have been a brother of a Rev. Dr. Snodgrass, who married Janet Anne Douglas Montgomery, daughter of Robert Montgomery, a Scotch preacher and poet, and their son, Lieut.-Colonel John James Snodgrass, our member's nephew, was Military Secretary to Major-General Sir Archibald Campbell, Bart., G.C.B., Commander-in-Chief of the expedition to Burmah in 1824-25, whose daughter, Maria Macdonald Campbell, he married in 1823. Colonel Snodgrass was afterwards Assistant Political Agent at Agra, and wrote a 'Narrative of the Burmese War.' His widow died at the age of ninety in New South Wales, and a grandson, John, was a major in the 96th Regiment; while a granddaughter, Janet, who is, I believe, still living, is the widow of Sir William J. Clarke, Bart., of Rupertswood, in the Colony of Victoria, who was a member of the 'Oriental' until his death in 1897.

Thomas Snodgrass was appointed a 'Writer' in the Honourable Company's service in 1777, became 'Factor' in 1782, and 'Senior Merchant and Assistant Collector' at Ganjam, in the Madras Presidency, in 1790, and here he remained for the rest of his career, which terminated when he had become 'Collector.' The only other entries in the Register are: '1801. Without employ;' '1804. Out of the service;' '1805. Annuitant;' and it was during these last two years that an episode occurred which has been frequently mentioned in Indian annals, and has lately been reproduced

in the columns of the 'Pioneer,' from which well-known paper and from other sources I produce the following account :

Mr. Snodgrass administered the Collectorate of Ganjam in those early days of the last century when the pagoda-tree was worth the shaking. Ganjam is not only a district, but there was formerly a flourishing town of the same name, of which the public buildings are said to have been the handsomest of any station in the Madras Presidency. It was visited, however, by a severe epidemic of fever, and, being considered very unhealthy, Mr. Snodgrass removed his headquarters to Rhambha, a village situated at the southern extremity of the Chilka Lake, which is really a shallow inland sea opening out from the Bay of Bengal. Here he acquired a valuable property and built upon it a magnificent residence, which at the end of a century, is said to be in a marvellous state of preservation. His luxurious and princely style of living attracted, however, the attention of rivals in the Company's service, and in course of time he was ordered by the Court to return home and to submit his accounts for examination. He came back and made application for his pension, but the Court renewed their demand for his accounts.

Mr. Snodgrass was in a dilemma, but at length informed the Court that all his books and accounts had been lost by the upsetting of the boat which was bringing them down from Rhambha. The explanation was not regarded as satisfactory, the more so as the average depth of water in the Chilka Lake is from three to five, and never exceeds six feet, and consequently there might be some prospect of the recovery of the documents, even in a damaged condition, if an effort were made in that direction. The Court maintained its position,

and not only declined to grant Mr. Snodgrass a pension, but struck him 'out of the service.' Like Mr. Augustus Snodgrass the poet, Mr. Thomas was a man with great firmness of character, and quietly informed the Court that the day would come, and that very quickly, when they would beg him to accept the denied pension. To this notice he received no reply, and then he proceeded to action. Arrayed in tattered clothes and armed with a broom, he set to work sweeping a crossing in Leadenhall Street, in front of the East India House. Immediately, says the 'Pioneer,' all London was agog with the intelligence that an old and distinguished officer of the East India Company, a Collector of a District who had ruled over a hundred thousand people and revelled in a palace, was now reduced, in the evening of his life, to the necessity of earning his bread by sweeping the streets. This, people said, was the much-vaunted East India service. This was a specimen of the so-called 'prizes of a glorious profession.' The Court was thunderstruck, and implored Mr. Snodgrass to take himself and his broom away. He replied quite gently that he was sorry he could not afford to give up an honest livelihood. The Court said they would give him two pensions, twenty pensions, if he would clear out. Mr. Snodgrass made answer that, not being a grasping sort of individual, he would be satisfied with the one pension that was his due. In a formal resolution the Court thereupon decided to grant the cancelled pension, with arrears to date, and the next day Mr. Snodgrass, attired in frock coat and tall hat, drove up in a carriage and pair, or rather with four horses, as stated in earlier accounts, to thank the Court in person, and at the conclusion of his address is said to have added: 'You have



now made up my income to 5,000*l.* a year.' The position of Mr. Snodgrass as a crossing-sweeper is the more anomalous if it be remembered that at the very time that he was earning an honest livelihood by following that pursuit, he appears on the Register as possessing two votes in the administration of the Company, being the proprietor of 1,000*l.* East India Stock.

A somewhat similar story is told by the first Lord Lamington<sup>1</sup> of a Cambridge undergraduate, a nephew of Mr. Mortlock, the great Cambridge banker, and also of a Bishop of Lincoln. His friends had frequently paid his debts, and at length, tired out, they desired him to take his name off the boards. This he refused to do, but adopted an unusual expedient to have his debts paid. He hired an apple-stall and a small tent, and placed them exactly opposite Mr. Mortlock's Bank, with the inscription in large letters on the stall: 'Fruit-stall kept by Mr. Mortlock, nephew of Messrs. Mortlock, bankers, and of the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Lincoln. No change given.' He passed the day seated in the tent, in a magnificent velvet-lined cloak, books on the table; beside him there was a plate to receive donations, which poured in—sovereigns and half-sovereigns abounded. As there was room for two in the tent, friends took it by turns to sit with him. Mr. Mortlock, the banker, could not move out or even appear at the windows without seeing a crowd, whose sympathies were all with the stall-keeper, and who enjoyed the joke immensely. The result was inevitable. He had to be bought off.

Another present that was offered but not accepted was

<sup>1</sup> *In the Days of the Dandies*, by Lord Lamington.



that of a *paunchee* board, for the Committee informed the generous donor that it was not consistent with the rules of the Club that the game should be played within its precincts. Although the word appears twice on the minutes very distinctly written, yet I am inclined to think that it should be *pauchees*, a game which, according to Mill's 'History of British India,' 'bears a resemblance to chess and draughts, and is played by two natives reclining on their sides, with a small chequered carpet placed between them, and is the favourite amusement of the indolent Hindú race.'

The Duke of Wellington was not simply a figure-head, but regularly paid his annual subscription, and in one year by some accident it was paid twice over. The Duke thereupon writes explaining the circumstance, and an order is made that the surplus be returned to His Grace. An unfortunate clerk of the kitchen appeals to the Committee for permission to retain his situation until he may be released from a sponging-house where he is confined for debt, but his appeal is ineffectual. That mention of the kitchen reminds me that the department at a very early stage of the Club's life caused a good deal of anxiety to the Committee.

After trying such *cordons* as M. Jérôme Dutôt, from Paris, M. Alexandre, from the Travellers', and several others, they arrive at the conclusion that, all French cooks having failed, they will look out for a first-class English cook, and they thereupon appoint to that responsible situation Mr. John Porter, who has been nine years at the Albion and eighteen months with the Marquis Camden. Mr. Porter, however, only remains for a short time, and M. Dutôt

is reinstated. The Committee also decide that to relieve their servants of the cost of medical attendance the sum of 5*l.* be subscribed annually to the dispensary of the parishes of St. George and St. James, and, in regard to their spiritual wants, that sittings be hired in Hanover Chapel, the annual charge being 4*l.*

Just about the time that we went to Hanover Square the old Cock tavern in Regent Street was pulled down, and a chapel with an imposing frontage was built upon the site. The portico was rather useful as an asylum for ladies shopping in Regent Street on wet days, but I am not aware that the chapel conferred any other advantages, and before the end of the century it was carted away, and a vast building, with fine shop frontage, called Regent House, has been erected on the spot that the chapel formerly occupied.

Our loyalty to the Throne has always been displayed by the illumination of the Club-house on the anniversary of the birth of the reigning sovereign, but I am at a loss to understand why such illuminations during the 'twenties' should have taken place in the month of April, for, according to history, His Majesty King George IV. was born on August 12.

During the reign of Her late Majesty, of glorious memory, we were accustomed to a difference of a few days between the anniversary of the birth of the sovereign and its official celebration, but why four months should be allowed to elapse between the birthday and its public recognition seems to require an explanation.

Tuesday was mail-day for the East, and the billiard-marker was ordered to collect all letters in the Club-house by 12 o'clock noon and take them to the City. This was in

1826, before the days of steam communication, although in the previous year Captain Johnson, of the 'Enterprise,' had received the sum of 10,000*l.* for making the first steam voyage to India. In 1833 there were two mail days in the week—namely, Monday and Thursday—and in like manner the billiard-marker is to collect the letters. This was the year in which an Act was passed throwing open the trade to India and the tea trade with China, and hence probably arose a demand for larger postal accommodation.

Incidentally we learn that the new ship 'Neptune' is about to sail for India, and permission is given that a plan of her cabins may be laid upon the reading-room table, and in 1830 Captain Grindlay announces that he has established a house of agency for passages to India.

This is the first mention of the important firm of bankers and East India agents which has existed for seventy years in Parliament Street, so well known to everyone connected with the East. It afforded a pleasant occupation in the old days of the Company to stroll down to No. 55, and it was tempting to see lying open before you the long broad page of a cheque-book. You had but to fill in the amount, sign your name at the foot, and pass the bit of paper to the cashier, who handed you in exchange its value in notes or cash; that is to say, if you had the money to your credit, and if not, well, Grindlays were generous, and, provided they held authority to draw your pay, they cared very little about an overdraft.

Talking of bank-notes, there must have been a good many spurious ones in circulation during 1828–1829, for in that year the Club coffee-room waiter reports that he has received two forged notes of 5*l.* each, for which the Committee make

allowance. It was in 1829 that the last execution for forgery took place.

Frequent applications are made to the Committee that new newspapers may be added to the list of those supplied to the Club, but in its early years they were chary as to those which they permitted to be introduced. The list includes 'The Times,' 'Press,' 'Globe and Traveller,' and 'Telescope,' in duplicate and single copies of 'The Sphinx,' 'True Sun,' 'Age,' and 'Mirror of Parliament;' and, moreover, we subscribed fifteen guineas per annum to the circulating library of Mr. Hookham, in Bond Street.

Casually, too, we get at some facts relating to the supplies requisite for the maintenance of a large household. The consumption in seven weeks of 4,458 pounds of meat is accepted as reasonable for the provision of 3,694 persons; but one *chef* had actually consumed in six weeks 4,863 pounds in providing for 3,529 persons, and, his consumption being considered grossly extravagant, he was incontinently dismissed. But prices were by no means high in the 'twenties' and 'thirties' of the last century. Gibley, our butcher, supplied beef, mutton, and veal at  $7\frac{1}{2}d.$  to  $8\frac{1}{2}d.$  per pound, and 'soup meat' at  $3\frac{1}{2}d.$ ; poultry was cheaper than to-day, but fish was more expensive; coals were sold by measure, the chaldron of twelve sacks averaging for some years 35s. 6d.; and ice was very variable in prices, sometimes being so low as 2s. per 100 lbs., and at others rising to 10s., according to the supplies actually in the market and to those which were shortly expected to arrive from America.

Lighting was costly. We commenced with lamps and candles, but quickly found that it was cheaper to use gas,

even at 9s. per 1,000 cubic feet. The supply seems, however, to have been inadequate or imperfect, for members playing billiards complained of it, and colza oil at 7s. 6*d.* per gallon was substituted.

The increase in wages of men-servants during the last seventy years has been by no means large, but the services of females are much more costly than when the Club was first opened. Assessed taxes and parochial rates show an enormous increase, as is only natural when we consider that the former after reaching their maximum were then on the decline, and that, with regard to the latter, public lighting was on a very small scale, the repairs of highways were in a great measure maintained by the collection of tolls at the turnpikes which then dominated all outlets from the metropolis, and the Elementary Education Act of Mr. W. E. Forster, and much less a costly School Board, had not been dreamed of.

In these early proceedings of our Committee there are one or two points that puzzle me—why did we buy our liveries from the Philanthropic Society, which we did for many years? and does beer improve by a sea voyage? if not, how is it that the Committee purchased a hogshead of Hodgson's ale, bottled at Bombay, at 18s. per dozen?

This mention of ale in connection with India brings to my mind a financial operation that was very effective in the old days of sailing ships.

The world-renowned firms of Green and Wigram used, for a consideration, to guarantee a cabin, or part of one, to a traveller to the East, but he had himself to supply his sleeping bunk and other furniture, and, moreover, he had to

provide his peculiar 'poison' in the shape of beer or other liquid. The usual drinks were bottled 'India pale ale' and soda-water, which were delivered over to the charge of the ship's steward, who took an early opportunity of advising the passenger, with all due respect, that for every empty bottle of ale on which the label was intact he was prepared to pay the sum of 6*d*.

The bottles at the port of destination were re-filled with native beer, for which a charge of one rupee per bottle was made on the return voyage, and thus a very fair profit was derived by the enterprising official.



## CHAPTER IV

## OUR GROWTH

IN 1833 the Club had to deplore the loss of its founder and first chairman, Major-General Sir John Malcolm. He had resigned the chairmanship in July 1827, when he was appointed Governor of Bombay, but was re-elected on his return in 1831, when he also became Member of Parliament for Launceston. During the winter of 1832-33 he had lodgings in Prince's Street, Hanover Square, and conducted all his correspondence at the Club. On January 21, 1833, he presided at the weekly meeting of the Committee, and proposed 'that Monsieur Rio, a French gentleman of high literary attainment, be invited to become an honorary member,' and several of his published letters addressed to his brother Sir Charles, and other relatives and friends, bear the Club heading. He was hard at work until he was struck down with illness, and he was also greatly interested in a house and property that he had purchased at Warfield, Berks, where he hoped to pass a peaceful old age, after a long and arduous career. Lady Malcolm and their daughters were staying at Hastings, and on April 28 he left his lodgings with the intention of joining them.

The stage-coach was the usual means of transit in those days, but Sir John's intention was to drive in his own carriage to Sevenoaks, and there to take the mail.

On his way he called at the Stage Coach Office at Charing Cross, but when his servant opened the carriage door he found his master lying on the floor, struck down with paralysis.

Sir John was taken back to his lodgings, and there he lingered for ten days without the power of articulation. After that he recovered his speech, but only for a short time, for he died on May 30, 1833, with his wife and daughters and only son, Captain George Malcolm, surrounding his death-bed.

The Duke of Wellington showed his regard for his old friend and comrade by calling daily at Sir John's lodgings to inquire about him during his illness, and sent his representative to attend the funeral, which took place very privately in St. James's Church, Piccadilly.

His body does not rest there, however, for his remains were afterwards removed to the cemetery at Kensal Green, where a tablet was erected to record his birth, and death, and services.

In the 'Statesmen's Corner' of 'The Abbey,' side by side, and almost touching one another, stand the marble effigies of two remarkable men of the nineteenth century—of John Malcolm, soldier, statesman, patriot, one of the founders of our great Empire in the East; and of Benjamin Disraeli, Earl of Beaconsfield, patriot, statesman, and Prime Minister, who crowned the work that they had completed by adding the Imperial title of *Kaisar-i-Hind* to the other dignities of the British monarchy.

The statue by Chantrey, in Westminster Abbey, was erected by public subscription, as also was a monument raised to his memory in his native county of Dumfries.

Our portrait of him, by S. Lane, was painted shortly after

Sir John's death, chiefly from an engraving which his son, Captain George Malcolm, said was in the hands of our Secretary, and was the best likeness of his father.

Later on we had to give up possession of this engraving, for reasons that will be mentioned hereafter.

In addition to the son above mentioned, Sir John left by his wife, who survived him, at least two daughters, the elder of whom, Margaret, married in 1827 Sir Alexander Cockburn Campbell, second Baronet, Lady Malcolm's nephew, a resident magistrate at Albany, Western Australia, and their descendant, Sir Alexander T. Cockburn Campbell, fifth Baronet, is now permanently settled at Perth, capital of that Colony. I have not been able to ascertain whether the only son, George Malcolm, left any family.

It is a little curious that the death of this gallant soldier and sage diplomatist passed without notice in the 'Obituary' of the 'Annual Register' of 1833, while that of one of our founders, though much less distinguished, is recorded at some length.

Until the end of 1842 we seem to have pursued a hum-drum course, without any incident of importance, from which it may be assumed that we were prosperous, and contented with the cooking and other departments; but in October of that year we had a rude awakening.

Our Secretary had been in the employment of the Club from the time of its foundation, and his services had been highly appreciated and apparently fairly rewarded, for his salary had been raised by increments to 350*l.* a year, and on two occasions sums of fifty guineas had been voted to him in recognition of special duties that he had performed. But it seems that, in partnership with others, he was carrying on a

business of engraver and printseller, which proved unfortunate, and led him to commit acts of gross dishonesty. One day, when the Committee assembled as usual, the Secretary was absent, but he had sent a letter which contained a partial confession of his misdeeds.

Ultimately the actual facts of this distressing case became known, and in the result it was found that the absentee had forged the name of a member on a bill for 300*l.*, and had embezzled between 3,000*l.* and 3,500*l.*, leaving the Club indebted to its tradesmen to that extent.

The position was very serious, for naturally, when the state of affairs came to their knowledge, our creditors clamoured for their money.

Happily, the members rallied to the assistance of the Committee, and forty of them compounded for their future annual subscriptions by paying down at once the sum of 100*l.* each, and with the amount thus collected our immediate liabilities were cleared off. It was, however, necessary to take into consideration the annual loss of 320*l.* per annum consequent on this composition, and at an extraordinary general meeting it was resolved to make a call of 8*l.* on every member. Some few demurred, but very few declined to pay, and nearly 400 members responded to the whip.

Thus the Club passed safely through a very severe crisis; but it is amusing to read the measures that were adopted by the Committee, who were attacked with a serious fit of economy immediately after the mischief had been done.

The supply of snuff to members free of charge, which costs 25*l.* per annum, is to be discontinued; and, as to the staff of servants, their wages are to be cut down all round, the annual

gifts to them are to be stopped, and even their spiritual requirements are to be sacrificed, for the pew in Hanover Chapel is to be given up.

There was an annoying incident in connection with this unsavoury business. During his long connection with the Club, the Secretary had ornamented its walls with a number of good engravings, including that already mentioned of Sir John Malcolm, and the members had grown to regard them as their own property. The defaulter saved himself from transportation for life by escaping to America, and his estate was thrown into bankruptcy. The indebtedness amounted to some 7,000*l.* in addition to our claim, and, acting under the advice of our solicitors, the Committee did not appear as creditors, but the Court came down upon us, and carried away all the prints and engravings.

In this and the following year, 1843, some important changes were effected in the regulations and administration of the Club. By one resolution it was decided in general meeting that officers of Her Majesty's and the Honourable East India Company's service on sick leave shall be admitted as visiting members on paying the annual subscription of 8*l.*, with power to pay the entrance fee of 21*l.* at any time during their leave, or on their return to India, but in this latter case payment must be made within eighteen months.

This resolution afforded great convenience to young men who had come home for a short time, and who wished to enjoy the advantages offered by the Club, but who could ill afford to pay down 29*l.* for the privilege of being a member perhaps for only a few months, and a large number availed themselves of the opportunity for joining.



By another resolution it was decided that certain noblemen and gentlemen may be admitted by the Committee of Management to become members, without ballot, and in consequence we shortly afterwards added to our roll the name of George, second Baron and first Earl of Auckland, who had recently returned home from the Governor-Generalship of India, and who wrote to our Chairman, the Hon. Holt Mackenzie, expressing his desire to become a member.

Attempts had been made from time to time, for many years, to give to the Club somewhat of a more social character by permitting members to introduce their friends, but they had always been resisted by large majorities until the annual meeting of 1843, when Sir Thomas Edward Colebrooke, an Indian official of great influence, managed to drive in the thin edge of the wedge, though not very deeply—for the concession only amounted to this, that a member might in future invite a stranger to the ‘house dinner,’ the cost of which, for himself, was fixed at 12s., and for his guest at 15s.

The minutes of Committee meetings at this period contain some few items of interest. There is rather a heated discussion because the steward declines to receive sovereigns at their nominal value of 20s., but will only take them by weight; they being, as he states, so depreciated that he cannot pass them at their full value. Ultimately it is ruled that he is to accept them at 19s. 8d., if the tenderer will take that price. I am reminded here of a singularity in the ways of our forefathers—namely, their dislike to copper money. For many years the rule existed in our Club, and may have obtained in other similar institutions, that nothing should be



sold for a smaller price than sixpence, not even a biscuit, so that there might be no necessity for giving coppers in change. I think it probable that a memento of this singularity is still to be found in the large circulation of threepenny pieces, about one pound's worth of which are drawn every morning from the bank for use in the Club during the day.

Another singular rule was, that before delivering silver change to any member every piece was to be rubbed or polished with a leather. Whether this rule was made for sanitary purposes I cannot say, but a gentleman who was a member for upwards of half a century, and who died only a few years ago, remembered it being in force. I am told that Thackeray mentions this custom in one of his works, but I have not been able to find the passage. There are also many complaints from members as to the difficulty that they have in getting their daily bath. In those days there were two bath-rooms and between thirty and forty gentlemen desired to use them every day, and quarrelled about their turns; now there is one room, which is scarcely ever used, as everyone has bath accommodation in his own house or chambers. How our predecessors, in the forties, performed their ablutions, except at the Club, is a matter for consideration. I do not think that at that time there were half a dozen public baths in all London. The Argyll Baths, in Regent Street, were opened in 1817, and some years before that there were baths under the same name in New Broad Street, City, which have now disappeared; there was also an old Roman bath in Newgate Street, and a large swimming-bath in Clerkenwell; and I believe that these were the only ones.

Quill pens are a great source of trouble ; the library waiters, it is said, do not know how to cut them, and at length an order is given for a professional cutter to attend once a week. Writing-paper, with the Club crest, is introduced for the first time, not without some misgivings on the part of the Committee, on account of the extra cost ; and with some demur on the same score, subscriptions to 'Punch' and the 'Illustrated London News' are sanctioned, somewhat late in the day, for the former made its appearance in 1841, and the latter in 1842.

It is not uninteresting to compare a poulterer's price-list of this period with one of modern date. I have before me two—one furnished by Wallis, of No. 2 Swallow Place, Hanover Square, dated November 21, 1842 ; the other by Hull, of the same address, and dated October 3, 1900. They are both headed with the Royal arms, and I am informed that the shop was first established as a poulterer's in 1794. The variation in prices is very slight, and in poultry is scarcely perceptible ; but in game there are some changes : partridges were 1s. 6d., as against 2s. 6d. to-day ; grouse, 3s., as compared with 4s. 6d. ; capercailzie and blackgame do not appear on the old list, nor do quails, but in their place we have some birds for which apparently there is no demand to-day, as, for instance, dun birds, ruffs and reeves, and Turnham Green pigeons.

The dun bird, I am told, is so like a widgeon that it has long since lost its originality, and consequently may still come into the market under another name.

Ruffs and reeves—or rather 'ruffs or reeves,' for they are so scheduled in the Wild Birds Protection Act of 1880, and I think that they are one and the same bird—are now very un-





*Lord Melcalfe, G.C.B.*

common, due, it is stated, in a great measure to their own characteristics. Ruffs are very peculiar birds, and so pugnacious that they will fight for fifteen minutes at a stretch, with ruffs bristling and head lowered. They are allied to the woodcock and sandpiper, and the cock has a tuft of feathers round the neck.

The Turnham Green pigeon, price 1s., while other varieties in the old list are quoted at 1s. 6d., was, I presume, the cheap bird that it was customary to send to Turnham Green when that spot was the great centre of pigeon-shooting, or it was the bird put on the market for sale after it had been shot at, but I have never had any satisfactory explanation of this item.

Sir Charles T. Metcalfe (afterwards Lord Metcalfe) was an original member of the Club, but he had never been able to join until 1839, for he had passed thirty-eight years in India without once returning home; and to mark their sense of his distinguished services he was that year invited by the members to a public dinner, on which occasion the Duke of Wellington also honoured us with his presence.

This is the first public dinner mentioned in our records, and I find that the second recipient of a similar invitation was again Sir Charles, prior to his departure to assume the Governorship of Canada in 1843. Before he left, a meeting of his many admirers was held at the Club, under the presidency of Sir J. L. Lushington, when it was resolved 'That the Right Honourable Charles Theophilus Metcalfe, Bart., G.C.B., be requested to sit for his portrait for the Club, as an enduring memorial of the high respect, regard, and esteem in which his many public and private virtues are held.' The portrait was

painted by Mr. F. R. Say, and several copies have been made of it.

In a previous chapter I mentioned the name of Dyce Sombre, and I shall again have to recur to it, but in connection with Metcalfe it is stated in his 'Life'<sup>1</sup> that a fellow-passenger with him on board the 'St. George,' on his first return to England, was this Mr. Dyce Sombre, adopted son of the Begum Samroo, who had held Metcalfe in high estimation when he was Resident at Delhi. Sir Charles was at that time a comparatively poor man, and shortly after their arrival in this country Dyce Sombre wrote to Metcalfe's sister, Lady Ashbrooke, offering a loan to Sir Charles of 20,000*l.* or 25,000*l.*, payable in Calcutta, and to be repaid at his (Metcalfe's) convenience.

The offer was a generous one, and the channel adopted to bring it to the notice of Sir Charles tends to show that it was substantial, and really meant for his acceptance.

The 'forties' was a warlike decade in the history of India, and throughout it there was scarcely a cessation of hostilities in one part or another; but in 1844 Sir William Nott, covered with honours after his campaign in Kandahar, returned to England, and Sir Robert Sale, fresh from his victorious defence of Jellalabad, came home for a short rest. Both of these gallant officers were elected honorary members; but their tenure of that position was very brief, for General Nott died on January 1 of the following year, and Sir Robert Sale fell a victim to the wounds that he received in the fierce fight of Moodkee on December 18, 1845, during the campaign of the Sutlej.

<sup>1</sup> *Life of Lord Metcalfe*, by Kaye.



Our portrait of Major-General Sir William Nott, G.C.B., by Brigstocke, was painted during the brief period that elapsed between his return to England and his death. The General and the Artist were both natives of Wales, and some years later this portrait was exhibited at Chester as the *finest specimen* of a Welsh artist.

In the same year Lord Elphinstone was elected a member without ballot, and Sir Henry Pottinger, on his return from China after signing the Treaty of Peace of Nankin, which gave us in perpetuity the island of Hong Kong, rejoined the Club, and was invited to a public dinner on January 10, 1845.

In 1846 Ibrahim Pasha, adopted son of that Mehemet Ali whose portrait adorns our staircase, visited England.

He was a gallant soldier, who had caused a great deal of trouble to most of the European Powers, for it required a combination of England, Austria, Russia, and Prussia to turn him out of Syria, recapture Acre, and subvert his designs on Constantinople. The Club invited him to a public dinner on July 10, and it is said that on that occasion he departed from the strict rules of the Prophet, and became so elated that he had to be carried to the drawing-room after dinner on the members' shoulders. Mehemet Ali was the first Viceroy of Egypt and founder of the present dynasty, but his son predeceased him, dying in 1848.

The Sikh War is one of my earliest recollections, and I remember the weary waiting for news of our friends and relatives engaged in the Sutlej campaign. Nowadays we hear of a battle and almost at the same time we have a list of its victims, but in the 'forties' we had no ocean telegraphs and no Suez Canal. News came to hand of the great battles of

Moodkee, Ferozeshah, Aliwal, and Sobraon, and of the gallant deeds of Hardinge, Gough, Sale, Sir Harry Smith, and others, by the Overland route ; but months elapsed before the long lists of killed and wounded were issued from the War Office and the East India House, that brought joy to one home, sorrow to another, for neither Administration would bear the expense of the heavy postage by the shorter route.

Our Club at that time had a very large military element, for the East India United Service, in St. James's Square, had not yet been formed, and I find that thirty-seven members were added to the supernumerary list on their departure abroad when the war broke out, and that only twenty-one appear to have rejoined at later dates ; but I am not able to state what became of the sixteen who failed to come back to us.

In our minutes there is, however, one pleasing incident connected with the campaign which is worth recording, and I transcribe in full a resolution unanimously passed at a meeting held on July 5, 1847 :

‘ Resolved : That in order to testify the respect entertained by the members of this Club for His Royal Highness Prince Waldemar of Prussia, and in an especial manner to evince their high sense of the enlightened enterprise exhibited in his visit to British India, and of the chivalrous spirit with which His Royal Highness was led to share in the noble struggle of their brother-officers and fellow-servants in the Army of the Sutlej, His Royal Highness be requested to permit the Committee to enrol his name as a permanent Honorary Member of the Club. And further : That the

following noblemen, constituting the suite of His Royal Highness, be at the same time invited to become Honorary Members of the Club during their residence in England: the Baron Lauer, Count Oriolla, and Count Groeben.'

The gallant Prince Waldemar was first cousin of Frederick William IV., King of Prussia, who was great-grandfather of His Majesty the present German Emperor. He was about twenty-seven years of age, and a colonel in the Dragoons of the Prussian Army, when in 1844 he obtained his Sovereign's permission to travel in British India, with a view to studying foreign military institutions, and perhaps to gaining a little experience of warfare in the East, when in Europe everything was peaceful. He was accompanied by the two members of his Staff mentioned in the above resolution—namely, Count Groeben, his personal friend, a lieutenant of the Guards, and son of one of the most illustrious and popular generals in the Prussian Army; and by Count Oriolla, a major on the Staff; and also by a medical attendant, Dr. Hoffmeister.

Sir Henry (afterwards Viscount) Hardinge, Governor-General of India, who was an eye-witness of the gallantry of the Prince and his comrades at the battle of Moodkee, wrote an interesting letter to the Chevalier Bunsen, then representative of Prussia at the Court of St. James's, of which the following paragraphs are extracts:

'Camp, Ferozepore: January 1, 1846.

'MY DEAR CHEVALIER,—I wish your Excellency a very happy New Year, and many congratulations on the personal safety of Prince Waldemar, who, with the characteristic

gallantry of his illustrious race, and the national love of enterprise of his countrymen, was present with me at the recent action of Moodkee on December 18, and at Ferozeshah on December 21 and 22.

‘It was impossible for any soldier to show more coolness, intrepidity, and energy than did His Royal Highness and the noblemen of his suite on these occasions.

‘The Prince’s surgeon was struck off his horse by a grape-shot, when I saw His Royal Highness instantly alight to his assistance. The humanity of this act was of no avail. The unfortunate gentleman had already ceased to exist.’

After stating how he had at length induced the Prince to withdraw, with great reluctance, on the second day of the battle of Ferozeshah, Sir Henry concludes: ‘I beg further to observe that His Royal Highness has, by the amiability of his demeanour, won the respect and admiration of all the officers, civil and military, of the East India Company’s Service, and that our most respectful good wishes attend His Royal Highness wherever he may direct his steps.’ This gallant gentleman died at the early age of thirty-three, from the consequences of a fall from his horse while hunting at Münster (Westphalia).

I have two old and faded letters before me: one, dated December 20, 1845, is from a young subaltern in the 26th Regiment Bengal Light Infantry, giving a brief account of the battle of Moodkee, and containing this passage: ‘There are several foreign officers in camp, and Handscomb (the Colonel) invited some of them to our mess. They are Prussians, and very fine fellows; one is Prince Waldemar, and

his doctor was killed in the action, and our regiment sent the firing party the other evening when he was buried.'

The other letter, addressed to the same subaltern by his father and received by him on May 29, 1846, contains a passage which is interesting as showing the appreciation in which the army of the Sutlej was held here by a grand old soldier. 'I was told by a very great man,' it says, 'and as good a judge of these matters as the great Duke himself, that I should be proud of having sons with such an army, but I shall tell you the story as it occurred. I had heard that a second edition of "The Times" had just come out on the 31st ultimo with the telegraphic despatch of another great action in India, and I went to Mr. Green's<sup>1</sup> to look at the paper. I met him in the yard with Lord Alfred Paget and an elderly gentleman. On mentioning the subject Lord Alfred asked me if I had letters. I saw the old gentleman's eyes sparkle on being told I had two sons engaged, and he broke out with great vehemence: "Sir, you should be proud to have two sons with the finest army that ever took the field; four great battles in less than two months. I could never credit it. I know of nothing like it in the annals of war. Compare it with the Russians in the Caucasus, and the hundred thousand French in Algeria, and then deny if ever there was a finer army, or one that has ever achieved so much in so short a time." This fine old gentleman was the Marquis of Anglesey, who left his leg at Waterloo.'

In the decade about which I am writing the minutes constantly remind us that home affairs were not all rose-coloured.

<sup>1</sup> Richard Green & Sons, shipbuilders at Blackwall.



A subscription list is opened for the sufferers in the terrible famine in Ireland in 1845-46, brought about by the failure of the potato crop, which, from the effects of starvation and subsequent diseases, and also of emigration, is stated to have reduced the population of the Green Island by about two millions; and that disastrous period was followed shortly afterwards by the Chartist disturbances in London itself, when the Committee orders that all the servants of the Club be sworn as special constables.

The 'fifties' witnessed the introduction of several important changes in the Club, both externally and internally.

Its purely Oriental character did not disappear at once, but a rival had sprung into existence which seemed likely to attract a considerable portion of the military element of the Company's servants. This was the East India United Service Club, which opened its doors at 14 St. James's Square in 1847, but in the early years of its existence it does not appear to have run very well alone, for in 1851 its Chairman made a suggestion to our Committee for the union of the two institutions, and for the appointment of a sub-committee to arrange terms. Negotiations were carried on, but our Committee shortly reported that the proposition submitted to them involved financial changes incompatible with the existence of the combined Clubs, and the subject dropped.

Nevertheless, the advent of this Club evidently impressed our Committee with the necessity of taking some action, and they recommended that in lieu of the words 'Ground of Candidate's eligibility,' in the Book of Candidates, the following heading should be substituted, 'Candidate's Rank, Profession, or Occupation.'



By this means a loophole was made for the admission to membership of others than those strictly and solely connected with India and those places mentioned in the original prospectus, and several Colonial gentlemen offered themselves as candidates, and were elected.

We made, too, an addition to the accommodation of the house by building a floor above that of the drawing-room, and locating there the billiard-rooms, and also by extending the Strangers' Room ; but the cost of alterations greatly exceeded the estimate, and, moreover, we suffered considerable loss in repairing the stables for a tenant who omitted to pay his rent. Towards the end of 1854 there was a considerable deficit, and with the sanction of an extraordinary general meeting a whip of 2*l.* was made on every member.

The year seems to have been a bad one from a financial point of view for other Clubs besides our own, for the Secretary of the East India United Service, on behalf of his Committee, again writes to our Chairman offering terms of amalgamation. The somewhat arrogant first clause of the conditions proposed—to this effect: 'Limitation of the admission of Oriental Club members to the classes admissible under the East India United Service Club Rules'—raised the ire of our Sub-Committee appointed to negotiate, and they at once advised that no further steps be taken in the matter.

Almost concurrently with the offer of the East India United Service Club, another proposition was made to us by a very old and distinguished institution. This was the Alfred Club, which was established in 1808, and flourished for many years at No. 23 Albemarle Street until its dissolution in 1855. I have already mentioned that Lord Byron was a member of the

Alfred, and amongst others of the founders in the beginning of the last century were the Earls Brownlow and Somers, Sir John de Beauvoir and Sir George Shee, Thomas Cocks Somers, Bingham Richards, and the Dean of St. Asaph.

Bishops at one time were in force, but withdrew when a billiard-room was opened; bankers were very numerous—there were five of the name of Currie, eight Cocks, three La Touche, four Glyns, two Drummonds, and Charles H. Mills, afterwards Lord Hillingdon. At a later date we find the names of Sir Roger C. Tichborne, not the Claimant, but the real possessor of the baronetcy; of Sir Henry Bulwer-Lytton, Hugh Cairns, and Charles Watkins Williams-Wynn, a distinguished politician who at different times was President of the Board of Control, Secretary of State for War, and Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster.

Sir George Thomas Staunton, Bart., M.P. was an original member of the Alfred, and also of our Club. He resided for many years at Canton, as agent of the Honourable East India Company, and edited Mendoza's 'Historie of China.' His father, Sir George L. Staunton, as secretary to Lord Macartney, negotiated the peace with Tippoo Sahib in 1794.

We have still a few members of the old Alfred Club on the roll of the Oriental, and from them I have gleaned some facts about its dissolution; but opinions differ very greatly as to the causes that led to it.

From one member I have this note: 'It was literary. Once Canning dined there and heard some one inquire, "Who is that?"' He was so disgusted at not being recognized that he christened it the "Half-read" Club. It broke up because laymen and barristers black-balled one another. It had a

fine library and a splendid collection of plate, but the trustees declined to allow the Committee to sell the property, and took it into their own hands. They realized the value by public auction, and placed the proceeds with a firm of bankers in St. Paul's Churchyard, who failed shortly afterwards, and so the members lost everything.' My informant added that amongst the articles of plate were a large number of small silver coffee-pots, which were all bought at the sale by a member, who carried them off to his home in the country. Perhaps they are still existing in some family, who may be ignorant of their history.

The statement that a disruption was brought about through class feeling among the members is not, however, supported by other gentlemen with whom I have conversed. They assign the cause to pecuniary difficulties. This hardly appears to have been the case from an examination of the last balance-sheet, which shows that the Club was perfectly solvent, with a good credit at the bank; but it seems that certain alterations in the construction were under consideration, and that a meeting of members had been convened for the purpose of sanctioning a whip all round, in order to supply the necessary funds. The rock on which they split was the same as that against which we, of the Oriental, have had some hard knocks—namely, the question of a smoking-room.

In the Alfred it is stated to have been an 'infamous hole' at the very top of the house, and a large party maintained that, if the house was to undergo any sort of renovation, better accommodation for smokers ought to be provided. The Committee would make no concession, and hence the break-up.

'It was a "charming" Club,' said one member to me; 'and there was a custom that a whole page of the Candidates' Book was assigned to each aspirant for membership. His name was written at the top, and below came those of his proposer and seconder, and then followed those of any members who knew him and wished to support his candidateship. In my own case I was surprised to find how many friends I had when, after joining, I looked through the book, and found the page literally crammed with names.'

In Moore's 'Life of Lord Byron' there are two pleasant letters from the poet with reference to the Club. Writing to Mr. Hodgson on December 8, 1811, he says: 'The Alfred has 354 candidates for six vacancies. The cook has run away and left us liable, which makes our Committee very plaintive. Master Brook, our head serving-man, has the gout, and our new cook is none of the best. I speak from report, for what is cookery to a leguminous-eating ascetic? So now you know as much of the matter as I do. Books and quiet are still there, and they may dress their dishes in their own way for me.' And again, on April 5, 1823, he writes to the Earl of Blessington: 'Tell Count D'Orsay that some of the names are not quite intelligible, especially of the clubs; he speaks of Watts'—perhaps he is right—but in my time Watier's was the dandy club, of which I was a member. He does not speak of the Alfred, which was the most *recherché* and most tiresome of any, as I know by being a member of that too.'

Sir William Fraser, Bart., in 'Disraeli and his Day,' writes to this effect: 'The first club to which I belonged in London was in Albemarle Street, the Alfred, a sort of minor

Athenæum. It was suggested to me by my great-uncle, Mr. Henry Holland, who had been at one time Lord Grey's secretary, and member for his father's pocket borough, Okehampton. The Club no longer exists. The name by which it was usually known was the "Half-Read" Club.'

Our negotiations with the Committee of the Alfred Club were of very brief duration. We agreed to receive their members without entrance fee, but on payment of the annual subscription of 8*l.* and of the additional 2*l.* which had recently been levied on our own members, and within two or three weeks between 350 and 400 names were added to our roll.

They did not all remain for any length of time, for many of them were already candidates for the Athenæum and other clubs, and left us when vacancies occurred; but we still bear upon our list of members the names of a gallant officer who was elected to the Alfred Club so far back as 1846, and of several other members of that old institution.

In 'Curiosities of London,' by Timbs, published in 1855, mention is made both of our Club and of the Alfred, and a list of 'Additions and Corrections' is annexed, in order to bring facts up to latest date. In this list there appears the following statement: 'Oriental, dissolved'—a curious misstatement of the result of the amalgamation of the two clubs. Thus is history written!

A minute of the proceedings of the Committee in 1855 leads us to consider in what light the Club has been regarded from time to time by the outside world who have taken any interest in its existence. This minute instructs the Secretary to write to the editor of the 'Atlas' and inform him that a gambling transaction to which he refers, and on which he



passes some severe comments, did not take place at the Oriental Club, but at the Oriental *Hotel*, Vere Street.

The editor of the 'Atlas' had in this case fallen into an error, and in his next issue gave a satisfactory explanation; but, nevertheless, it is undoubtedly the fact that the Club for some time had an evil reputation for gambling and for keeping late hours.

The case of '*Osbaldeston v. Simpson and Others*,' published in 'The Times' in 1840, brought the Club and one of its members very prominently before the public.

The member was one of the 'others' and I need not mention his name, but the transaction that took place within the Club doors, probably in the little 'waiting-room' for visitors, to which I have previously alluded, was very disreputable, and resulted in his expulsion.

The plaintiff had won a considerable sum of money from this member at cards, and received from him 700*l.* cash, and security for 2,100*l.* in settlement.

Shortly afterwards it came to the member's knowledge that the money had been fraudulently won, the plaintiff having introduced a pack of false cards, and this fact appears to have been admitted by the plaintiff when he attended a meeting in the Club at which were present our member and Simpson, the principal defendant.

The member is stated to have read a section of an Act of Parliament against gambling, in which it was set forth that the plaintiff by his fraud had incurred a penalty of treble the amount that he had won, and the plaintiff, to avoid still more unpleasant consequences, handed to the member promissory notes of a total value of 9,000*l.*, the latter undertaking in



writing not to divulge the transaction. Of course, the transaction was divulged, and equally of course the bills were not met at maturity, and hence arose litigation and the introduction of the Club's name into a court of law, mixed up with a very shady piece of blacknailing.

But I do not find in going through the minutes that in the cases of gambling and late hours which from time to time were brought before the Committee any outsiders were concerned in the transactions that merited reprehension; and, as a matter of fact, until 'strangers' were freely admitted, no opportunity was afforded for their taking part in any game. Gambling to an excess appears to have been periodical, and to have been carried on at times when a few kindred spirits met together. The most incorrigible gambler of all was, I regret to say, a 'clerk in Holy Orders,' and he was constantly reported to the Committee for breaches of regulations in keeping the house open after the prescribed hours for closing.

Sometimes it was three o'clock in the morning before he and his friends separated, sometimes five, and in the last instance it was 7.30.

On former occasions the Committee had inclined a kindly ear to his protestations of amendment and to his piteous appeals for clemency on account of his advanced age, and of the wreck of his hopes and the loss of comfort that must follow on his being deprived of inter-communion with his old friends at the Club; but on this last occasion the ire of the Committee was not to be appeased, and they determined to proceed to the dire extreme of calling an extraordinary general meeting to consider the conduct of this recalcitrant parson. Happily he escaped condign punishment, for the

Committee found that at the season of the year when he broke the Club rules, it would be impossible to assemble a sufficient number of members to form a meeting in accordance with the regulations, and the whole question was allowed to drop.

In the history of 'London Clubs' published in 1853, there is a paragraph which gives a description of our members, conceived as follows: 'Another club devoted to travellers from a far-distant land is the Oriental, on the shady side of Hanover Square, established for the convenience of officers in the service of the East India Company, civil as well as military and naval. In its recesses these gentlemen find a retreat when at home on furlough, or a *réunion*, with all the hot spices and fiery cookery of the East, when they have finally retired from service, and returned, faded, crippled, and jaundiced, to repose on their handsome yet health-earned (*sic*) pensions, and narrate their adventures, or fight (in talk) their fields again. We have no space now for any anecdotes connected with them, and, sooth to say, they are somewhat of a saturnine complexion, relating for the most part to persons or affairs "two thousand miles up the country," in whom or in which few of our countrymen at home would feel an interest.'

In 'Melibœus in London'<sup>1</sup> a reference is made to our supposed untimely hours: 'He dines with dyspeptic friends at the "Curry and Rice" establishment, which keeps such very late hours that but for it he says he should never enjoy the beautiful and romantic sight of the rising sun.'

The young man who included the following paragraph in his London letter to the 'Liverpool Courier' in September

<sup>1</sup> By James Payn (1862).





HANOVER SQUARE IN 1787

*From an aquatint by E. Pott and F. Jenkins, after a drawing by E. Bury in the possession of Sir Ernest Clarke*

1874, when our new smoking-room had just been completed, and when the second International Congress of Orientalists had concluded its session in this country, was probably suffering from a bad attack of indigestion when he sat down to write his epistle:—

‘A large number of the Oriental Congress delegates yesterday inspected the reconstructed premises of the Oriental Club in Hanover Square. Although the Club was started in 1824, it is very seldom referred to in newspapers. A few years ago it was amalgamated with the once famous Alfred Club. Both before that time and since it has been a rendezvous for a class dubbed the “eminently respectable,” and, being in a quiet Square, away from all other clubs, it is not very well known by the public. A writer in a monthly magazine once described it as looking like a prison from the outside. “Enter it,” he said, “and it looks like a hospital in which a smell of curry powder pervades the wards—wards filled with venerable patients dressed in nankeen shirts, yellow stockings and gaiters, and faces to match. It is the region of calico shirts, returned writers, and guinea-pigs grown into bores. Such is the Nabobery into which Harley Street, Wimpole Street, and Gloucester Place daily empty their precious stores of bilious humanity.”’

‘The Globe,’ about the same time, writes to this effect:—

‘Although the Oriental is one of the oldest clubs in London, its name is not often nowadays in our mouths, for it is a quiet and exclusive establishment, and, being located so far north as Hanover Square, it is outside the borders of what is commonly known as Club-land. Half a century ago, however,

it was so well known that even the hackney coachmen had a nickname for it, "The Horizontal."'

But perhaps one of the cruellest personal criticisms was passed in the Club itself, and came from the mouth of a babe. A member reported to the Committee that a page employed in the lavatory had behaved with rudeness and impertinence. He had reproved the child because the hair-brushes were dirty and discoloured, and the lad replied, 'Please, sir, that isn't dirt, it's the dye off the gentlemen's hair!'

At a meeting of the Committee in July 1851, the Chairman called attention to a statement made by counsel (Mr. Bacon) in the Vice-Chancellor's Court, to the effect 'that only twelve months previously an attempt had been made which failed, to bring the Oriental Club within the meaning of the Act of Parliament of 1849' on a petition for its dissolution and winding-up. No such attempt had ever been made, and it is difficult to understand whence Mr. Bacon derived his information.

The Chairman undertook to write a letter to 'The Times' refuting the statement, and there the matter ended so far as regards our Club; but the case is rather interesting as bearing on the law relating to members' clubs, which has never been clearly defined.

This was a petition before Sir J. Knight Bruce for the dissolution and winding-up the affairs of a club called the St. James's, which had been formerly known as the Military, Naval, and County Service Club, and had its habitation in the old premises of Crockford's at 50 St. James's Street. The petition was presented by the Committee of Management, of which Lieut.-General Sir A. de Butts, the



Earl of Cardigan, and others, were members, and it was stated that the debts amounted to 18,000*l*.

Mr. Bacon, for a member of the Club, opposed the petition on the ground that such a society was not an association within the Act of Parliament of 1849—that it was not a trading association; and then he made the statement regarding our Club, and added that on that occasion the Court threw out the observation that the Inns of Court themselves were liable to have their affairs wound up under the same Act, if the Oriental Club was liable.

In giving his decision his Honour said: ‘I think this Club is an association within the meaning of the Act of 1849, and that it falls within the 7th and 8th cases stated in the fifth section of the Act of 1848. My opinion is that the order must be made. I have nothing to decide as to who is individually liable.’

The question of individual responsibility of committees, members, and officers of clubs never appears to have been defined in our law courts. I have looked through a great number of cases, and, although I can only speak as a layman, yet in all of them it appears to me that the decision regarding an individual’s personal responsibility has always been evaded.

Clubs (I refer only to members’ clubs) have frequently been sued through their committees, through certain members of such committees who have been named, or through their managers and secretaries, by tradesmen and others, and judgment in some cases has been given against the respective parties, but the decision has generally been accompanied by some such expression as that of Sir J. Knight Bruce,

mentioned above: 'I have nothing to decide as to who is individually liable.'

I do not suppose that the creditors are left unpaid, but the arrangements for paying them are made out of court, and a report of the action or trial never informs us by whom such payment was effected.

## CHAPTER V

## CLUB LAW AND RULES

THE theory is that in a club of, say, 600 members, each one of those members has an interest in the whole property of the club to the extent of one six-hundredth part, but that that property is vested in the hands of trustees, and that its management is intrusted to a committee, who are empowered by the members severally and conjointly to act for them. Hence it seems to follow that each individual member is answerable for the acts committed by the Committee; but from our Minutes of Proceedings in 1871, and from some private papers in my possession, it appears that a member has the power of relieving himself of the responsibilities incurred by the Committee even when sanctioned by the members in general meeting. The case was this :—

At a general meeting the Committee was empowered by a resolution to borrow money from the bankers of the Club for the purpose of building our present smoking-room.

Several members demurred to this proceeding, and one of them obtained the opinion of counsel purely for his own satisfaction. It became, however, known to the Committee that such an opinion was in existence, and the member was courteously asked to allow them to peruse it. To this he at once assented, and the opinion is recorded on our minutes.

This gentleman was a relative of my own, Mr. N. B. E. Baillie, a somewhat eminent Indian jurist, and the author of several standard works on Muhammadan law. He was a member of the Club for forty years, and apparently a very useful one, for he was frequently on the Committee, and to him were generally submitted all matters entailing questions of law.

He was a non-smoker, I confess, but he was never fanatical even on that point.

As already stated, Mr. Baillie, for his own satisfaction, submitted the following question by a case laid before Mr. Nathaniel Lindley, at that time an eminent Q.C., and now the Right Hon. Sir Nathaniel Lindley, one of the Lords of Appeal in Ordinary :—

‘If, under Rule 27, any addition can be legally made to the debt of the Club otherwise than in the form of debentures on the property, which would relieve the members from personal responsibility, and whether the members will become personally liable for any sums which may be borrowed under the authority of the propositions before mentioned?’

The answer was to this effect: ‘It is not, in my opinion, competent for the Committee, even with the sanction of a majority of members, to borrow money on the personal credit of any dissentient or non-assenting member; but there is nothing which renders any particular form of debenture or security obligatory. In my opinion, no member who did not assent to the resolution in question will be personally liable for money borrowed pursuant to it; and it is, to my mind, very, very doubtful whether the resolution authorizes the Committee to borrow on the personal credit of even the assenting members.’

‘But, to avoid any question of this sort, it would be prudent to give notice to the Committee and to the Bankers that the member giving the notice did not authorize the raising of money on his personal credit, and will not be personally responsible for any loan made to the Committee or the Club.

‘A loan on the security of the assets of the Club can only be prevented by a fresh resolution of an extraordinary general meeting, rescinding the resolution already passed.—(Signed) NATHANIEL LINDLEY, 6 Stone Buildings, Lincoln’s Inn, June 2, 1871.’

If this opinion be accepted, it would seem necessary to take down at an extraordinary general meeting the names of all assenting and all dissentient members; but such a course would greatly hamper the action of a committee who, in approaching their bankers, would, of necessity, have to state the whole circumstances of their position, and it is scarcely probable that bankers would advance money on such conditions.

This, however, is another case in which no definite conclusion was arrived at, for neither Mr. Baillie nor any other member appears to have given notice to the Committee or to the Bankers, and the smoking-room was built with money borrowed in accordance with the terms of the resolution.

If Club law in respect to external matters be very undefined, it seems to be much more so with regard to domestic concerns.

In studying the minutes over a period of nearly seventy years, I have been especially struck with the earnest endeavours made by successive committees to keep strictly to the rules and regulations of the Club, and to abide by the *litera scripta*,

notwithstanding that in several cases a very slight deviation would seem to have been permissible, and would have rendered their decisions less harsh than they appear to be to the mere onlooker.

Take, for example, the following instances : The agents of two members pay to our bankers on January 1 their annual subscriptions in advance for the current year, but shortly afterwards they write to the Secretary that one of their clients had died in November of the preceding year, and that the other had only lived until January 2, the day following the payment of his subscription, and they request that the amount paid in both instances may be returned to them. The Committee order the refund of the subscription in the former case, as naturally they were bound to do, but refuse to return the money of the member who had lived for one day only in the year on account of which his subscription had been paid. It appears to me that a little consideration might have been shown, and that very few club committees in London would have been so draconic.

Another apparently hard case was that of a member, a military man, who, on his passage from India to some other station abroad, remained for one night at a port of the United Kingdom. A fellow-member happened to see him on that occasion and mentioned the fact, and thus, probably without malice, gave information against him, for, when the traveller at a later date returned to the Club, he was advised that, under the rule applicable to 'Foreign Supernumerary Members,' half of the annual subscription of such members, namely 5*l.* 5*s.*, must be paid before he could be re-admitted. He expostulated, and explained that he had never been near the Club during



the whole year in which his brief visit to England occurred ; but the Committee was inexorable, and the member had to pay.

A third instance is rather amusing ; but, although the member complained very strongly, I do not think he was unfairly treated.

Before going to the opera with his three nephews, this gentleman gave instructions that three dozen oysters, at the then current price of 2s. per dozen, should be ready in the Strangers' Room after the performance.

His orders were fulfilled, the oysters were enjoyed, and before the departure of the party the member was presented with his bill, amounting to 14s., of which 8s. were for table-money. He wrote to the Committee, believing that an error had been committed, but was informed that the account was quite correct, as the table-money in the Strangers' Room had been fixed at 2s. per head per dinner (irrespective of what might be ordered), no other meal being served in that room after four o'clock.

If he had offered his nephews a bottle of Chablis, or even a glass of stout, with the oysters, I might have had some pity for him ; but the Club would actually have suffered a loss on this little supper had it not been for the table-money.

If the dispensation of justice by a committee, in strict accordance with rules and regulations, be accompanied by difficulties, and sometimes by apparent harshness, how much greater is the responsibility cast upon them when they have to decide questions which do not fall within the category of existing laws, and for the solution of which the only precedent is the custom that has obtained for a long period ?

In the Club's infancy, on questions of military etiquette

and procedure, whenever a difficulty arose, we were accustomed to ask the advice of the United Service Club, and were always courteously treated; and in domestic affairs our guide was the Union, as has been already mentioned. Although the date usually given of the foundation of this Club in Trafalgar Square<sup>1</sup> is 1822, yet it is said to have been first established in 1809, and consequently it already had a good many years' experience when we came into existence.

Sometimes 'custom' is proved to be absurd, and sometimes unjust, and in such cases the Committee usually adopted the course of making a special by-law. For upwards of thirty years 'custom' ruled that a single cup of tea or coffee should not be served until after twelve o'clock, except as a breakfast, and at the cost of 1s. 6d.

A Mr. Cunliffe ordered a *déjeuner à la fourchette* at 11 o'clock—a cutlet, poached eggs, a glass of claret, and a cup of coffee—and at the conclusion of his repast was presented with his bill, which included 1s. 6d. for his cup of *café noir*. Mr. Cunliffe complained, but the Committee ordered him to pay the amount, and it was only after a week's consideration that that august body recognized the absurdity of the situation, and passed a by-law that any member expending 2s. 6d. on his breakfast might have his coffee at the ordinary price.

Breakages and damages caused constant wrangling and controversy, and each case seems to have been decided on

<sup>1</sup> I am reminded of the existence of the original models of the noble lions by Landseer at the foot of the Nelson column in this square. There are two of them, one looking to the right and the other to the left, and until recently they were both to be seen in a private garden jutting on to Ladbroke Square, Bayswater, but one of them has lately been removed, I believe, to some place in Devonshire.

its merits. One member uses tumblers of thin glass to mix his hot grog, and breaks two or three of them before he effects his object. He is requested to pay the damage. Another breaks his eggs into similar glasses, which he also breaks, but in his case the Committee order that stronger glasses be purchased. A visitor in the Strangers' Room damages a table, and his host offers to defray the cost of repairs, but the Committee decline to receive any compensation, on the ground that a member's guest is a guest of the Club, and that consequently the expense should be paid from the public funds.

These are sample cases that I have found at different periods, but I have not come across any distinct rule on the subject of breakages.

As regards damages, after our existence for some forty years, during which period 'custom' appears to have been the only guide in the management of the billiard-rooms, there arose a controversy which gave occasion for another new by-law.

At one time we had a high reputation for billiards, and our largest room has recently been mentioned,<sup>1</sup> on account of its area and construction, as an example of what the surroundings of a billiard table ought to be; and, moreover, I think that we commenced well, for slate tables were first introduced in England about 1827, and our earliest table in our present house was made of that rock. Our minutes bring to light the fact that a somewhat remarkable member, the Hon. Robert Grimston, an all-round sportsman, a memoir of whose life was published in 1885, applied to the

<sup>1</sup> The Badminton Library.

Committee for permission to introduce the champion player, William Cook, to the billiard-room. Permission was refused, but by some means, a little later, Mr. Cook *was* present, and his playing attracted a crowd of members, and led to a slight fracas, which was brought to the notice of the Committee.

From the report that was submitted it appears that Cook was playing with our champion, Mr. John Petty Ward, who was a remarkably fine player, and won more than one silver cue at Lord's. When in his prime, he represented to the Committee that he had great difficulty in finding any member to play with him, because, if he gave 60 or 70 points out of 100, his adversary had to pay 8*d.* for playing 30 or 40 points; and, in consequence, and solely out of consideration for Mr. Ward, the Committee passed a by-law which allowed players, instead of giving points, to 'go back' a certain number—*e.g.*, in a game of 100 the superior player agrees to play 150 to his opponent's 100. There was a great deal of opposition to this rule when it was made, and in 1880, shortly after Mr. Ward's death, the whole question was raised, and a sub-committee reported that the practice was opposed to the printed rules in the billiard-rooms, that it was not adopted in any other club, and that it was most unjust to other players, as a game on this principle was sometimes protracted to a great length.

Acting on this representation the by-law was repealed.

But I have wandered from the controversy about the billiard-rooms, which arose in this wise.

The Secretary laid before the Committee a bill from Thurston & Co., for repairing a hole in one of the billiard cloths, cut by Sir T. J. Metcalfe, the fifth Baronet, who

objected to payment of the same until he should be made acquainted with the sentiments of the Committee, and the regulations of the Club on the matter.

The Committee orders 'that Sir T. J. Metcalfe be informed that it has been for many years the practice for members who cut the cloth to have the repairs made good through the marker, and afterwards to pay into his hands the cost of the same, and that such matters have never previously come before the Committee, owing to the custom having been recognized by the members.'

And then the Committee proceeded to fabricate a by-law to this effect :

At a meeting of the Committee held on June 3, 1861, it was 'resolved that gentlemen injuring the billiard tables shall be held responsible for actual cost of repairs.'

Sir T. J. Metcalfe demurred, and wrote several letters to the Committee, pointing out that their resolution was retrospective, and applicable to him personally, whereas he desired to be informed as to the rules on the whole question; but in the end he paid the account, and probably considered that the pleasure of baiting the Committee had made him full amends. That resolution was also abrogated at a later date, and the rule that now prevails is that which I believe to be almost universal—namely, that a fine of one guinea is imposed for any damage to the green cloth.

The 'hat' question raised a perfect storm. In almost all clubs where males do congregate, and probably it is still more marked in those of ladies, it is the custom of many members to wear their hats in-doors, whether it be to protect themselves from draughts or to proclaim their proprietorship in the



building and their claim to do as they like. In one well-known resort of diplomatists in Piccadilly, although the house may be full of members, scarcely a hat will be seen in the cloak-room, but the coverings will be found on the heads of their owners in other parts of the house. In this special case, however, the constant wearing of the hat is said to be in consequence of the necessity of affording greater protection to a brain, which, in the particular service to which the majority of the members belong, undergoes extremely hard work, and it is surmised that this protection is still continued, even during the hours of sleep.

In the Oriental there are very few members who wear their hats within doors, and no exception is taken to their doing so at all times and in all places, save in the coffee-rooms at the dinner-hour. You may breakfast and lunch with your hat on your head, you may smoke, and play cards or billiards, but you may not dine.

One gentleman appeared so attired at the dinner-table, and at once raised a storm. He was a member with a large circle of friends, very much liked, one of our best sportsmen, and possessed of a splendid voice, so that the attack made upon him was not directed against his person, but against his hat. He offered an explanation that during his long service in India he had suffered from sunstroke, and was obliged to cover his head at all times, through absolute necessity; but this did not satisfy the opponents of the hat, and the Committee were non-plussed when the matter was submitted for their consideration. Ultimately, they suggested to the member that he should don a skull-cap, but this he declined to do, and, rather than forego the use of his hat, he ceased to dine at the Club.



I have heard from members who remember the brief but heated 'hat' controversy that the real cause of the excitement is to be traced to the fact that, theoretically, all members are presumed to dine in evening dress, and that those who were not accustomed to do so resented the reproach on their non-conventionality, which was ostentatiously implied by the introduction of an article of attire especially intended for outdoor wear.

I have on several occasions referred to the questions and difficulties that have arisen regarding smoking accommodation.

These difficulties commenced about 1830, and were carried on almost without intermission for upwards of forty years, until at last the present handsome smoking-room was added to the house and opened for public use in 1874.

The subject was a perpetual worry to the Managing Committees during that long lapse of time, and from their minutes they appear to have treated it with great diplomacy. For some years they were in a strong position, and replied to all individual requests, and to general requisitions, with a simple *non possumus*; for undoubtedly they were supported by the original members of the Club who were adverse to smoking, and even until the middle of the last century the smokers only formed a small minority.

Considering how general, one may almost say universal, the habit has now become, it is interesting to throw back a glance to the period of its introduction, and to remember for what a comparatively short time smoking has been a custom of this country. We have all heard that tobacco was first brought here in the sixteenth century by one or other

of those gallant old heroes and pirates, Sir John Hawkins, Sir Walter Raleigh, or Sir Francis Drake, and that not long afterwards King James I. fired off his 'Counterblast against Tobacco;' and history further relates how the Star Chamber imposed enormous duties, how the cultivation was prohibited in England, and how, so late as the reign of William IV., an Act was passed directing 'that tobacco grown in Ireland be purchased in order to its being destroyed.'

In the last year of the eighteenth century the total consumption was only ten millions of pounds, and in 1828, when we first occupied our present house, it had reached fifteen millions, and the weed was almost universally used in those times by landsmen in the form of snuff, and for chewing by seafarers. Her late Gracious Majesty is said to have disliked the smell of tobacco, and consequently the habit of smoking was of very gradual growth amongst the upper classes; the clergy banned it, and preached against it far into the last century; and until H.R.H. the Duke of Cambridge became Commander-in-Chief in 1856 smoking was absolutely prohibited in barracks and mess-rooms.

In 1850 our Committee appear to have made their first purchase of cigars, up to that time members having found their own supplies, and ordered direct from China 10,000 Manila cheroots, at a cost of 16s. 6d. per lb.

They were delivered in seven months, at a total expenditure of 75*l.* 17*s.* 1*d.*, and must have afforded satisfaction; for another order for 20,000 was immediately given, and in 1866 there is an instruction 'that some samples of cigarettes be procured.' It would seem, then, that the custom of smoking

tobacco is of about fifty years' duration, and a question may be asked, Has it come to stay, or is it merely a bird of passage that has visited our shores for a short time?

Tobacco, as a part of our existence, differs very widely from the new drinks and new foods that are constantly introduced into our daily life. *These* are simply substitutes for, or improvements on, something that we have previously had, and are brought to our notice as being agreeable to the taste or beneficial to health; but the noxious weed is an extraneous novelty, which is not essential to our welfare, and is simply a palatable luxury, added to our comfort in the latter half of the nineteenth century.

Will future Chancellors of the Exchequer count upon the duty on tobacco as a large source of revenue? In the seventies and eighties the net Customs duties used to show an annual increment of about half a million; but in the nineties they began to fluctuate. In 1898 they amounted to nearly eleven millions and a half, but since that year they have commenced to decline. The introduction of an invigorating and life-sustaining product, several of which are known to exist amongst the Indian tribes of South America, might easily displace from its present prominent position the use of tobacco; but probably the Revenue would not be affected to any extent, for the substitute would be taxed just as highly as the original.

Most of the by-laws that have been made by many successive Committees have been intended to meet current events, and with the march of time have become unnecessary, because in the course of years circumstances have completely changed; but there is one that has stood

a long test, and that well might become a permanent regulation of the Club.

It is a by-law passed in July 1832, and is to this effect: 'That papers inviting the expression of opinions on political or religious subjects, or asking the signature of gentlemen in support of charities or subscriptions, are of a nature not to be introduced to the public table of the Club.'

It is surprising to find how many attempts were made to evade this law; how 'Tracts for the Times' were thrown broadcast into every room by one member, and how others endeavoured to disseminate their views on High and Low Church by offering printed matter on both sides of the question.

Mr., or *Colonel*, Dyce Sombre, as he was sometimes called, managed to introduce the history of his grievances, in several bulky volumes, into the Club, and declined to take them back; and Mr. Paternoster, at one time a member, flooded the house with a series of pamphlets filled with libels and defamatory statements regarding his former colleagues.

The legal proceedings in which these gentlemen were involved may be cursorily mentioned as tending to throw some light on the old lunacy laws, but they have no interest in themselves.

Mr. Richard Paternoster was a Civil Servant of the H.E.I.C., who distinguished himself at Haileybury, and went out to India in 1820. He returned to this country in 1827, and retired on a pension of 150*l.* a year, granted to him, on his own showing, because his brain had been affected during his residence abroad.

He appears to have led a loose and fast life in London,

and, in the opinion of his father and other relatives, was insane and unable to manage his own affairs, and one afternoon he was seized by a number of men, and after a hard struggle was forced into a coach and compelled to go to a lunatic asylum kept by two brothers of the name of Finch. It does not appear that he was arrested on any medical or legal certificate, but after his arrival at the establishment two medical men certified as to his insanity, and consequently he was detained.

From the asylum he wrote a letter to our Committee setting forth his position, which was forwarded to the Court of Chancery; but before any steps were taken for instituting an inquiry into his case he escaped from captivity and forthwith (1840) commenced an action against Finch and others, the 'others' including the men who arrested him, several attorneys, and his own father, for assault. Several of our members who had known Mr. Paternoster were called as witnesses; but he seems to have been dissatisfied at the result of the trial, which ended by the withdrawal of a juror, and, as I have already said, he published a number of pamphlets in which he heaped abuse on friends and foes alike, and thus confirmed the opinion already formed as to his insanity.

The Dyce Sombre case is more interesting because it takes us back to the eighteenth century, and to the days when adventurers from many European countries, men without education but of indomitable courage and utterly unscrupulous, played the part of 'free-lances' in several districts of India, and sometimes rose to power and acquired considerable wealth. Such a man was Walter Reinhard, a native of Salz-



burg, who enlisted in the French Army, where he got the sobriquet of 'Sombre,' from the sombre cast of his countenance and temper. He deserted the French service for that of the East India Company, in which he rose to the rank of sergeant, and again deserted to join the Nawab Kasim Ali Khan in his war against the British, and by the Nawab's desire, when the natives had refused to perform the deed, Reinhard superintended the assassination in cold blood of Mr. Ellis, Chief of the Factory of Patna, and of other Englishmen who were made prisoners of war at the capture of that town. Reinhard had married in early life a woman of the Mussulman faith, and had by her a son, Aloysius, who received from the Emperor of Delhi the title of Zuffer Yab Khan; but this did not prevent his marriage at a later period with the Begum Samroo, a remarkable woman, the daughter of a Mussulman who was born near Meerut about 1753.

Sombre for some years commanded a brigade in the service of the Emperor Shah Alum, for the maintenance of which a very important district—a principality in fact—situated round Sirdhana, in Bengal, had been assigned, and on his death, which occurred in 1778, this property devolved upon the Begum, who carefully nourished and improved it. She was baptized into the Roman Catholic Church in 1781, under the name of Joanna Nobilis, but she does not appear to have been a very desirable convert, for she had two of her slave girls flogged until they were senseless, and then thrown into a pit dug in front of her tent for the purpose and burned alive, a punishment which, horrible as it was, was, in the opinion of Colonel Sleeman,<sup>1</sup> not unmerited.

<sup>1</sup> *Rambles and Recollections of an Indian Official.*



But in another way she was a very important acquisition to the cause of Christianity, for she built and endowed churches and chapels at Sirdhana and Meerut, and made a donation of Rs. 150,000 to the See of Rome, in return for which her adopted heir, Dyce Sombre, was made a Chevalier of the Order of Christ, and was presented with a splint from the *real cross*.

Aloysius, the son of Reinhard, was born an imbecile, but nevertheless married, and had a daughter, who in course of time was also married to a man named George Alexander Dyce, said to have been the natural son of a Scotch officer in the service of the East India Company.

By that marriage there were three children, David Ochterlony, and two daughters, one of whom married Captain John Rose Troup, of the Bengal Army, and the other an Italian gentleman, Mr. or Baron Solarolé.

The Begum Samroo, or Sombre, adopted as her heir the grandson of Reinhard, and stipulated in her will that on her death he should take the name of Sombre.

As I have already stated, Mr. D. O. Dyce Sombre came to England in 1838 in the same vessel in which Sir Charles (Lord) Metcalfe returned to this country, and on his arrival was much *fêted* and lionized, it being reported that he enjoyed an income of 20,000*l.* a year, which was probably the case, as the Begum, in addition to making ample provision for his sisters, left him a fortune of sixty lakhs of rupees, a sum in that day equal to 600,000*l.*

In 1840 he married the Hon. Mary Anne Jervis, only daughter of Edward, second Viscount St. Vincent, and settled upon her the sum of 133,333*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*, Three per Cent. Consolidated Bank Annuities.

In 1841 he was elected member of Parliament for Sudbury, but was very quickly unseated for 'gross, systematic, and extensive bribery,' and in the following year a separation took place between the husband and wife.

The alliance, or rather misalliance, was probably one *de convenance*, although it is stated in the pleadings that Dyce Sombre was deeply in love with his bride, and was so jealous that his conduct was insufferable. He was born and bred a Mussulman, although afterwards received into the Church, and was naturally inclined to keep a strict guard over his womankind, as his co-religionists are bound by law to do ; but in addition to this he was insane probably from early childhood. His grandmother and his mother both died out of their minds, and in 1843 his condition was so marked that he was placed under restraint.

Like Paternoster, he managed to escape from his guardians and went to Paris, whence he came over to this country on several occasions with safe-conduct passes from the Lord Chancellor, and during one of these visits, in 1851, he died in Davies Street, Berkeley Square. Then commenced a golden harvest for the legal profession.

His will was disputed and was before the Courts for more than five years.

Commissions were sent to Paris, to India, and to China, where the testator had once been, and eventually, in January 1856, after the case had been argued for nineteen days, judgment was given against the will.

Naturally, the whole matter raised a great deal of interest in the Club, so many of the members being witnesses on one side or the other. Dr. Elliotson, whom I have already

mentioned, and Sir James Ranald Martin were called as medical experts; Troup, the brother-in-law; Prinsep, one of the executors; and Thomas Drever, a trustee of the marriage settlement, were parties to the action; and John Farlie Leith, Thomas Cowie, Neil Benjamin Baillie, and several others, figured as legal luminaries or witnesses in this important case.

Dyce Sombre's widow married in 1862 the Right Hon. George Weld-Forester, who succeeded to the family title as third Baron Forester.

But the by-law of 1832, although it prevented the admission of many abuses, was sufficiently elastic to allow of the introduction of appeals for charitable objects connected with India, as, for example, the Mutiny, Bengal Relief (1871), Indian Famine Relief (1878), and other funds, and of subscriptions being raised for the benefit of the families of several individuals who during their lives had given good and faithful service to the Club, and who died in harness, but for whom the Committee had no power to make provision.

I notice that on two different occasions at very long intervals subscription lists were opened in the name of one of our original and distinguished members.

This was Lieutenant Waghorn, who devoted a great portion of his life to the work of bringing India nearer to our doors, and of facilitating the means of postal communication. In 1845 he personally conducted the Bombay mail of October from that city to London in thirty days, and expressed his conviction that within two years he would bring it home in twenty-one days. He died in 1850, and apparently left his mother and sister in straitened circumstances, for a sub-

scription list was opened for their benefit. In 1884 it dawned upon the public that Waghorn had rendered great and valuable services, and at a meeting at the Mansion House it was determined to erect a national monument to his memory. To this monument, which, I believe, was erected at Chatham, the Club also subscribed.

I have a feeling of regret that the Committee deemed themselves obliged to decline a proposal to open a subscription list to present a testimonial to Captain Wilson for his conduct in recapturing the 'Emily St. Pierre,' which was submitted to them in June 1862.

This was the year of the second Great Exhibition in London, and I could not remember at the moment any nation with which at that time we could have been concerned in captures and recaptures; but at length I discovered the following account of the 'Emily St. Pierre' which reads like a page out of Marryat's 'Poor Jack,' and which I think will bear reprinting as the record of a gallant deed of Britishers during the Civil War of the United States of America: 'She was sailing from Calcutta to New Brunswick, and while attempting to inquire whether a blockade existed was captured off Charleston Bar by a Federal ship of war. Her captain and his cook and steward were permitted to remain on board on her voyage to Philadelphia. On March 21, Wilson, with his two associates, succeeded by stratagem and courage in recovering the command of the vessel, overcoming two United States officers and thirteen sailors, and brought her into Liverpool. The owners of the ship gave him two thousand guineas, and the Liverpool merchants presented him with a magnificent testimonial of their admiration of his

gallantry. The British Government refused to restore the vessel when claimed by the Americans.<sup>1</sup>

The definition of a club as a place 'where women cease from troubling, and the wicked are at rest,' is attributed to a witty bishop. Until very modern times we could not count amongst our members a single Father of the Church, but the bishop in question may well have belonged to the old Alfred, which drifted into our house, and which had a goodly number of the Bench upon its rolls. Lord Alvanley, a noted joker, when asked whether he was still a member of the Alfred, is said to have replied: 'Not exactly; I stood it as long as I could, but when the seventeenth bishop was proposed I gave in. I really could not enter the place without being put in mind of my catechism.'

The Bishop's definition is no longer justified, nor has it proved truthful with us for the last forty years, for so far back as 1861 I find a minute to this effect:

'It having been brought to the notice of the Committee that ladies have been supplied with refreshments in the Strangers' Room, the Committee have found it necessary to decide that the practice is very reprehensible, and should be discontinued, and the waiters of the Club are to be instructed accordingly.'

'Reprehensible' is a charming word, strong and powerful, and had it been brought to the attention of the fair sex by means of a notice in the entrance-hall, there is no saying what changes it might have made in their deplorable innovation; but it never went beyond the minute-book, and consequently the Committee's memorandum had about the same effect in

<sup>1</sup> Haydn's *Dictionary of Dates*.



stemming the invasion of the ladies as Dame Partington's mop in stopping the inflow of the Atlantic.

For many subsequent years successive committees bewailed the reprehensible practice, and endeavoured to abolish it, but ultimately they had to yield submissively, as in all probability the prelate, with all his witticisms, was accustomed to do, when he returned home and found himself in the presence of Mrs. Bishop, after passing a pleasant afternoon at his club.

The pæan of the fair sex is now printed in our Rules and Regulations :

‘Ladies, when accompanied by a member, may be admitted to the Strangers’ Room for tea, coffee, or light refreshment, between the hours of four and six daily.’

But I think it is very doubtful whether they will remain satisfied with that permission, and with the occupancy of a room for two hours daily. ‘Although located so far north as Hanover Square, and outside the borders of what is commonly known as Club-land,’ as stated by a writer whom I have already quoted, nevertheless the Oriental is very conveniently situated for a fascinating amusement of ladies, that of shopping.

A few yards to the east and they are amidst the great emporia of the drapers and haberdashers of Oxford Street and Regent Street; and even at a shorter distance to the west they find themselves in Bond Street to buy bonnets and trinkets, have their photographs taken, visit the picture galleries, and purchase tickets for the theatres and opera.

Already the charming sex have discovered the value of the Square as a central situation, and have established a club of their own in the upper floors of the corner house, now occupied



by a bank, and formerly called Downshire House. The new London Central Railway has greatly added to the means of communication with the east and west, and the facilities that it affords go to prove that the founders of our Club were wise in the selection of its situation, although they could not have foreseen the great changes in the means of locomotion that their successors would witness.

The Indian Registers of the early part of the last century contain the addresses of holders of Indian Stock, and from them we find that the magnates connected with the Company, members of the Court of Directors, and their military and civil servants, chiefly resided on the northern side of Oxford Street, in Harley Street, Wimpole Street, Devonshire Place, and their immediate neighbourhood, and, to suit their convenience, the selection of a site for a club was confined to the limits that I have previously mentioned.

In the next two decades Tyburnia and Bayswater were opened out, and were quickly inhabited by families connected with India of fairly good means, but no longer nabobs, for the sources of their incomes were more restricted. The pagoda tree had ceased to yield its golden fruit; the acceptance of presents had been abolished, and the newer generation was simply dependent on legitimate pay or equitable remuneration for work performed. But over this new district Indian people congregated so thickly that an enterprising tradesman, with a small shop in the Talbot Road, Bayswater, found that it would pay him well to import and provide his customers with the condiments and spices to which they had been habituated in their Eastern life, but which were not easily obtainable in London; and in our records there is a complaint

by one of our members that our curries are not perfection, and a recommendation that we should try the powder supplied at the little shop in the Talbot Road.

The complainant was his late Highness the Maharajah Dhuleep Singh.

The very existence of the India House is passing out of memory, and there is no occasion for any of our members to mount their hacks or enter their glass coaches at the Club door in order to proceed to Leadenhall Street, and there attend a meeting of the Court of Directors; nor do they have to journey to the East India Docks in order to inspect and fit up a cabin when about to make a journey to the East, probably passing, as they travelled up or down the Commercial Road, some of those huge green vans, forerunners of furniture-removal cars, that slowly trudged along a stone tramway, purposely designed to bear their weight, carrying the products and riches of Asia to the warehouses of the old Company. No; to-day they instruct their agents to secure them the necessary accommodation in a P. & O. steamer, or, if inclined for a constitutional, stroll down to the West-End office and complete their arrangements. But still we have many members, as even those institutions that are situated in Club-land proper must also have, whom business or pleasure attracts to the City, and ours have arrived at the conclusion that their home in Hanover Square is rather conveniently located under present circumstances; that the facilities afforded by 'the Tube' enable them to transact their business in the City and return, if it so pleases them, to luncheon at the Club; and consequently they are rather inclined to bless the memory of Sir John Malcolm and his co-founders who

selected our remote Square as a suitable retreat for Indian officials.

We find, too, some small compensation for being located in so unfashionable a district in the fact that we are not ground-tenants of the Crown, and that consequently we are not subject to that enormous increase of rental which, it is stated, several of our sister institutes in the more enviable quarter of Pall Mall will have to face in the course of a few years.

## CHAPTER VI

## OUR CONSERVATISM

IN an earlier part of this veracious history I propounded the question, 'Why did we buy our liveries from the Philanthropic Society?' for in my own experience I have never been able to find any sentiment of universal benevolence combined with the fabrication of my clothes, but apparently our Committees must have had good cause for dealing with the Society, for they continued to do so for upwards of thirty years. In 1860 I find a reply to my own query, and a somewhat indignant minute of the Committee who accept the offer of another firm of tailors at Kennington Cross to supply liveries at a much lower rate 'than the *person* hitherto employed by the Club who has been carrying on a tailoring business under the name of the Philanthropic Society, though in reality that Society has had nothing to do with it.'

As I progressed in my study of Committee proceedings, I found the solution of the tailor question, as given above, but I met with other problems, in the settlement of which I encountered some little difficulty at the outset. One member strongly recommends a purchase of Cavit  cigars, which he states have recently been introduced (1861) into the market. One of the duties inculcated in our original prospectus was that of imparting knowledge regarding the past and present

condition of the East; but geography does not appear to have been included in our curriculum, for an inquiry addressed to the member by the Committee as to where or what was Cavité produced no results.

The Spanish-American war brought Cavité into prominence, and taught us that it is the capital of one of the Philippine Islands, and that in fact the word 'Cavité' was only the brand of a particular class of Manila cheroots.

*Kedgerree*, rice cooked with butter and *dāl*, is a common dish all over India, and it is not surprising to find that it was in requisition in the 'wards filled with venerable patients' to which a writer whom I have already quoted has referred; but what is 'Slip Kedgerree,' which by order of the Committee is to be supplied at 6*d.* for breakfast and 9*d.* at luncheon?

By a similar order, and at the request of several members, 'Clunn mutton is to be reinstated on the list.' I am informed verbally, on good authority, that Clunn mutton is the produce of sheep in Radnorshire, and would therefore in all probability come under the generic term of Welsh mutton, but a careful research in dictionaries and in 'Notes and Queries' has not enlightened me as to the *unde derivatur* of the word Clunn.<sup>1</sup>

But when I recently alluded to the Philanthropic Society it was not my intention to wander into abstruse questions, but rather to point to the conservatism, that is to say, the dislike of change, as a feature worthy of notice not only in the procedure of our successive committees, but also amongst

<sup>1</sup> Since writing the above I have been informed that I am myself displaying that ignorance of geography with which I have charged my predecessors, and that the correct spelling is 'Clun,' the name of a town in Shropshire.

our individual members, our legal and clerical advisers, our tradesmen, and our domestic staff; which was peculiarly exemplified by the action of our governing body in continuing the employment of a tailor sailing under a false name and about whom they knew very little for a period of thirty years.

Before I lay down my pen, which doubtless many of my readers are hoping that I shall shortly do, I intend to plunge it deep into the inkstand, and to wage a short and sharp *combat à outrance*, strictly in accord with the laws and amenities of the tilting-field against the Club Committee, but until I am primed for that momentous occasion I will only refer to them when necessary.

Sometimes a question has arisen as to the right of members to bring their own supplies of any article of food or drink into the Club. There are certain rules which provide for such cases, but I have noticed two or three instances which strongly exemplify the force of habit and conservancy of custom. One member states that for forty years he has brought his own sardines into the Club for breakfast, and with such a record he is allowed to pursue his old course; a second states that he has never purchased an apple in the house, but has bought what he required outside for a very long period, and in this case a by-law is passed that any member may bring his own fruit into the Club; a third seems to have turned night into day, and was in the habit of dining sumptuously at 11 P.M., and remaining in the house until the moment of closing. So well was his custom known, that when on one occasion he departed from it a little earlier than usual, the servants at once turned out the lights and closed



the rooms. Unfortunately, one member was still in the house, and required some writing paper at about 1 o'clock in the morning. It had all been put away, and the next day the occurrence was reported to the Committee. When called before that body the offenders stated in their defence that, as Mr. So-and-so had left, they thought there was nothing more to do, and had consequently closed the rooms.

Many attempts were made to induce Mr. So-and-so to change his habits, and on one occasion when he took his place at his accustomed seat the *menu* of about a dozen dishes was submitted to him by the waiter instead of the voluminous bill of fare which is provided daily. He looked at it disparagingly, and then quietly remarked: 'This is directed by the Committee against me; bring me the whole lot.'

The firm of solicitors who now afford us their professional assistance whenever it is requisite is the same house, although the style has been somewhat changed, that advised our founder, Sir John Malcolm, and our first Committee, three-quarters of a century ago, on the purchase of the freehold that we now occupy; and I am informed that the firm had been established for nearly the same period before they became connected with us, and that for nearly a century and a half they have occupied the same premises, although, too, their name has undergone changes. In October 1824 Messrs. Goodeve & Ranken, of No. 4 Holborn Court, Gray's Inn, were appointed solicitors to the Club; and at the present time Messrs. Ford (Ranken), Ford, & Chester, of the same place, although now called South Square, act for us—a long connection, and honourable to both parties.

One of our founders, and an active member of our first Committee, was a Colonel Ranken, of the H.E.I.C.S., and it seems very probable that he may have been in some way connected with the firm, one of whom was a Mr. Charles Ranken, who was born in India, and that he may have introduced them to his colleagues when legal advice became necessary.

For twenty-four years our banking account was kept with Sir William P. Call & Co., of 25 Old Bond Street, and it was removed in 1848 on the ground, set forth in the minutes, 'that no private bank allowed interest on deposits, and that in consequence the Club was driven to resort for security and employment of its balances to the purchase of Exchequer Bills, which were continually fluctuating, and therefore objectionable.'

I have before me the first contract for the purchase of Exchequer Bills into which the Club ever entered. It is dated October 6, 1824, and reads thus :—

## BOUGHT FOR THE ORIENTAL CLUB BY

MESSRS. MARTIN, CALL, &amp; CO.

3564 }									
5 }	2/1000 Exchequer Bills, June 14	.	£2,000	0	0				
	Interest 114 days	.	.	.	.	14	5	0	
	Pm. 48	.	.	.	.	48	0	0	
	Commission	.	.	.	.	1	0	0	
						<hr/>			
						£2,063	5	0	

ELLIS TICKER &amp; Co.

So far as I am able to understand the above contract-note, the Committee appear to have had some reason for classifying

this class of investment as objectionable. We seem to have purchased two bills of 1,000*l.* each, payable in twelve months, at a premium of 2*l.* 8*s.* per cent., carrying interest at an average rate of 3*l.* 10*s.* per 100*l.* per annum. One hundred and fourteen days had already run off the twelve months when we made our purchase, and consequently we had to pay interest to the vendor for that period. As a matter of fact, we paid some shillings more than the average rate of interest, and that would seem to be due to the terms on which Exchequer Bills are issued—namely, that interest is calculated day by day. In such an investment the Committee were, therefore, exposed to two fluctuations—one in a lower premium whenever they should wish to sell, and the other in the daily rise or fall in the rate of interest.

Our old bankers deprecated the change, and wrote a polite and expostulatory letter; but nevertheless the account was transferred to a branch of the London and Westminster Bank then situated at No. 4 Stratford Place, Oxford Street, and since removed to a house which has been rebuilt on the eastern corner of the same place. For upwards of fifty years our account has remained there.

In the course of sixty years we had only four secretaries, one of whom occupied the position for eighteen, and another for twenty-three years; and the office of steward was held between a father and his son, who succeeded him, for upwards of thirty-five years.

This conservatism tends to prove that the good order and harmony which are so strongly inculcated in the rules and regulations of all clubs, and which with slight exceptions have been fully maintained in the Oriental, do not apply to the

members only, but also percolate through all their relations, both external and domestic. In our household we have many examples of long and faithful service both in the male and female staff. One lad joined the Club in 1829 with the wages of 4*l.* per annum; he does not appear to have been ambitious, but he rose to the position of lampman, and remained a servant for forty-eight years, when he retired on a pension. Another became steward's-room boy in 1833, and rose to be head waiter, when he also retired after forty-four years' good service; and I could mention many other instances of a similar character.

Our first housekeeper, who entered the Club in 1829, was found dead in her bed one morning in 1855, and was succeeded by her daughter; and I notice in the minutes a case that carries with it a sad tale of matrimonial unhappiness. The head housemaid, after thirty years' service, also died in the house, and was found to be possessed of securities to the value of upwards of 300*l.* She had always been regarded as an unmarried woman, but some years afterwards a husband appeared, and proved his title to the property.

The amicable relations between employers and employed, to which I have referred, are due to the strict maintenance of a rule that obtains in all clubs, that a member shall not take the law into his own hands, but shall report to the Committee any misconduct or inattention on the part of a servant. In our regulations the wording of the rule is as follows: 'The conduct of a servant must not be made a matter of personal *remand* by a member, but any inattention, &c. &c. ;' which appears to me to be very questionable English, for I cannot find any authority for employing the word *remand* in the

sense of a rebuke or reproof. But in any case the rule is a sensible one, and well adapted to prevent the many domestic troubles that arise in private families, frequently due to the hastiness of the master or the fussiness of the mistress.

With us, if the rule be complied with, the offender is called before the Committee, who, being unswayed by prejudice or excitement, are able to give a just decision. I have, however, come across several breaches of the rule. One member is satisfied that the cheese brought to him is French and not Swiss Gruyère, and commands the waiter to taste it himself. The waiter apparently did not care for cheese, or had an antipathy to Gruyère, and respectfully declines. Then the member's anger is aroused, and he sends in a long complaint of the waiter's misconduct, but the Committee calmly arrive at the conclusion that there was no obligation on the waiter's part to taste the cheese, and that he was guiltless of any impertinence in declining to do so.

At an earlier date in our history a gallant major removed his boots before the fire in the library, and then, presumably finding the heat too great, passed into another room, leaving them behind him. The innocent library waiter finds the ownerless pair, and takes them away for safe keeping. In course of time the major throws off his afternoon drowsiness, and searches for his boots.

Then began the *tamasha*, and the major must have stormed, for the waiter, when called before the Committee, states in his defence, to the Chairman: 'If you please, sir, he spoke to me very "strong."'

The major was the sufferer, for he was informed that he had committed an impropriety in removing his boots.



Thackeray, in the 'Book of Snobs,' speaks of club waiters as the 'civillest, the kindest, the patientest of men;' and, as a body, I do not think that they mind about being spoken to 'strong,' but it depends upon the person who speaks.

Within the memory of man we had a grand member, who dined nightly at the Club, except when disabled by a broken collar-bone, or some hunting accident, which was of almost weekly occurrence. This was the Hon. Robert Grimston, an active, energetic man, who was seldom known to take luncheon, but came to the dinner-table with a glorious and well-earned appetite. When he sat down to dine he intended to dine, and at such times it was dangerous even for a fellow-member to distract his attention, and if anything went wrong with the meal, then he spoke 'strong'—very strong, I am told, by those who have heard him; and yet they never minded, for they knew him to be one of the kindest and best-hearted men that ever entered the Club doors. For another reason, too, they were fond of him. He was a great cricketer, and greatly nourished, if he did not create, the love for that game which is a special feature of our members and our staff. During the season the one subject of conversation in the smoking-room is cricket, and I have known several of the old Company's servants, who had passed their lives in India, and had gone through the horrors of the Mutiny, just as keen upon it almost up to the moment of their departure to other fields as they had been in their boyhood.

While it is gratifying to record the good services rendered to the Club, it is also just to say that the members and their Committees have not been unmindful of the fact that such services were deserving of reward.



When possible, pensions have been awarded to old servants ; but cases sometimes arise when a Committee is not justified in making a grant of any description to a servant who is forced, through ill-health or other cause, to resign his employment after a few years' service, and is left in a destitute condition. Under such circumstances I have noticed several instances in our history when the members have put their hands into their pockets, and drawn out a number of coins of the realm which, when heaped together, have served to put new hope into the heart of the invalid.

Mrs. Grundy ! Mrs. Grundy ! what will you say to this story of the ' eminently respectable ' ? A good, quiet, attentive servant of some years' standing, much liked by the members, was arrested outside our doors one night by the police, and brought before the magistrate early next morning, for having in his possession several tins of provisions, and other effects, the property of the Club. We had to appear, but had no desire to prosecute, and the magistrate, taking a lenient view of the case, considered that his dismissal from the employment of the Club was a very serious punishment, and therefore discharged him. Utterly wrong on our part, says Mrs. Grundy ; of course the Club ought to have prosecuted ; but worse is to follow :

The wife appeared upon the scene—mother of six small children, who were hungering for their breakfast, when a police constable arrived to announce the arrest of the father !

And what did the weak-minded Committee do in face of such an appeal ?

They paid a month's wages to their defaulting servant, and the ' eminently respectable ' who were in the Club-house at

the time joined together, and sent down to the still-room a token of their pity for the unhappy wife and mother, who in the depth of her grief was being consoled by the members of her own sex in that department. Altogether wrong; encouragement of crime; criminal weakness, and so forth! Yes! I know it all, and yet, as I write that simple story of charity and mercy, I feel an unaccustomed weakness about the eyelids.

But sometimes the Committee could be, and were, severe. It had been usual for the servants to have a ball on New Year's Eve, to which the Committee gave a subscription, and for which the use of the Club plate was permitted, the staff being held responsible for the same.

On New Year's Eve, 1860-61, some very undesirable characters must have obtained admission to the Club, for on the next day it was found that every likely receptacle for money or valuables had been broken open, and that a good deal of our plate was missing. Stern justice was administered; several servants were dismissed, and balls were prohibited for the future.

I find, too, several individual acts of kindness, as, for example, those of the Right Rev. Bishop Tozer, whom until recently we counted amongst our members, and who was in the habit of taking the pages and young members of the household to visit the Tower of London and other sights, whenever the Committee would grant permission; and of a gentleman, Mr. Alfred Burton, who, I hope, will this year celebrate his jubilee as a member, and who on several occasions presented a number of books and pictures to the servants' hall, with a view to adding to the comfort of the occupants;

and it is also recorded that in 1875 a member of the name of Bury bequeathed by will to the Chairman of the Club for the time being, the sum of 100*l.*, to be divided between the steward, the head waiter, and the hall porter.

I have already mentioned how their spiritual wants were attended to and afterwards suddenly abandoned ; and I ought to add that every five or six years a fee was paid to our medical man for vaccinating the household, and yet small-pox broke out with virulence in 1877.

I have previously mentioned, in a somewhat jocular spirit, the case of a member who paid 8*s.* for table-money out of a bill the total amount of which was 14*s.* That was an exceptional case, but the system of table-money is one to which some little consideration should be afforded. It is like the income-tax, in that it is easily collected ; and it is also like the income-tax, in that, when once imposed, it is very difficult to get it removed. In primitive times, as I have already mentioned, a small charge was levied to cover the cost of the cruet and other adjuncts of the table. That charge does not seem unreasonable, especially when we find that beer is included for the small sum of 6*d.*

In 1844, when a Strangers' Room had been opened, 1*s.* 6*d.* table-money is to be charged for every visitor, and 1*s.* per bottle extra on all wines served in that room ; and the charge in the Members' Coffee-room is to be 1*s.* This latter charge was reduced in 1848 to 6*d.* ; but in 1850, when it is stated that the price of meat was 7*d.* per lb.—lower than it had been for many years—it is again raised to 9*d.* Since that time the table-money seems to have been constantly rising, until now for members it has reached 1*s.* per head, and for strangers 2*s.*,

and neither of those charges includes beer, as was the case in our early days. I have utterly failed to discover any law that guides the fluctuations in the charge for table-money, and this ignorance is shared by our successive Committees, who not only display a great deal of hesitation when obliged to increase the tax, but apparently are ashamed of the proceeding, and not altogether without reason. The necessity for imposing this charge is stated to arise from the fact that a loss is annually sustained in the provisioning department—that is to say, in supplying the members and the household with food and drink.

For thirty years of our existence such a loss was never incurred, although the annual subscription was less than it is now, and the only department during that period which occasionally did not show a profit was the billiard-room. Probably circumstances have changed to some extent. We may have grown more luxurious in our tastes, and our house and establishment have both been enlarged. But the number of members is the same, and provisions are actually cheaper, and it is difficult to account for a constant and increasing loss.

In 1864 we are informed that the loss in the Coffee-room department amounted to 664*l.*; in 1872 it had increased to 1,203*l.*; and in 1873 to 1,244*l.*; and in reference to this last year the information is afforded that during the twelve months the loss on chops alone amounted to 75*l.*, the price, with bread, sauce, &c., being fixed at 8*l.*, whereas the actual cost, without any *et-ceteras*, was 11*l.* The reasons for these losses are stated to be the following :

- (1) That the Club is small, and that the number of members

who habitually dine is very limited ; (2) that provision has to be made daily for an average number of members, whether they attend or not, and that if, from one cause or another, a portion of them fail to put in an appearance on one or more days during the week there is a considerable loss at the end of it ; (3) that the staff of servants has to be maintained whether members are present or otherwise ; and, lastly (4), that wines, spirits, &c., are sold at very little above cost price.

The reasoning does not strike me as being very forcible. I have made a good many inquiries, and find that there are several clubs of good standing, both in London and in the provinces, with a smaller number of members than we possess, which yet make two ends meet, although their rental charges in several instances are higher, and the amount of their annual subscription less than ours. I think, therefore, that the first item may be dismissed.

The second reason seems to be applicable to all hotels and restaurants, as also to clubs. Trade is never absolutely stable, and although, with experience and a careful regard to statistics, the proprietors of such establishments may avoid great risks, still they are always liable to casual fluctuations.

Their risks would be very inconsiderable if they were in the position of the Oriental Club.

What more could any 'Boniface' desire, whether he be trading in his own name or as a public company, than a sound substantial building, with a good roof over his head, good drains below his feet, the rooms well furnished and his kitchen supplied with every necessity, his rent, his clerical staff, his waiters and his maids all paid, and about 3,000*l.* cash in hand at the beginning of each year with which to run



his house? I fancy that he would think himself in clover, and that in the course of a few years he would retire with a nice little nest-egg.

That is the position of our Club. There is an annual revenue derived from subscriptions, entrance fees, &c., and there are certain standing charges. Rent is a very small item with us, but we have to pay interest on mortgages, and, of course, rates and taxes and insurance. But when all these rental charges are paid, and when the expenses of the staff have been defrayed, including medical attendance, wages, pensions, and liveries, the Committee still have at their command a balance of 3,000*l.* per annum wherewith to maintain the property in repair, to light and warm it, and to supply all the necessities and essentials of a first-class hotel, barring sleeping accommodation for visitors, on the principle of *daily* cash payments.

Notwithstanding these advantages, our balance-sheet frequently shows a deficit, and we closed the last century with a considerable sum on the wrong side, due, as we are advised, to the loss sustained in the Coffee and Strangers' Rooms.

In their anxiety to change this unsatisfactory condition of affairs, the Committees have frequently appointed sub-Committees to inquire into the whole question, and to suggest any alterations that they might deem desirable.

One such sub-Committee called for a statement of the number of members on the rolls of the Club, and of the number of dinners served during a period of six years—namely, from 1862 to 1867. From this statement it appears that the average number of members in each of the above



years was 830, and that on an average we consumed in the two rooms above mentioned 24,000 dinners and 18,000 cups of tea and coffee. Each one of these dinners paid 1s. for table-money, and many of them, being served to strangers, a good deal more; but let us be content with 1,200*l.* per annum derived from members alone.

That sum is more than sufficient for the maintenance of the staff, and consequently we arrive at the conclusion that not only do we obtain our chops at less than cost price, but that the Committee is charitably providing other items of food at reduced rates, and that hence arises the loss. But I have never heard that the cost of a dinner in the Club is less than that of a similar meal in a public restaurant, and we know by experience that those clubs to which we are courteously admitted to membership during the occasional repairs of our own house are less demanding in their charges than we are.

As regards the wines and spirits in our cellars, the profits may be small as compared with those of fashionable hotels and restaurants, but in some respects we have advantages over such institutions. I notice that in 1865 a sub-Committee reported that our cellars were overcrowded with wines sent by different merchants on approval, an account of the consumption to be taken every quarter.

There are reported to have been deposited with us in that year 128 varieties in quarts and 72 in pints, making 200 different sorts, which had to be kept separate, and which were liable to be asked for at any time. On that supply of wine sent in, at fixed prices, the only real expense that we incurred was the rent of the cellars, but it was retailed

to the members at an enhanced price, and consequently no actual loss could have been sustained under this heading.

On one or two occasions the Committee appear to have been very weary of the task of trying to make two ends meet, and to have transferred a part of their powers to individuals strongly recommended to them as experts in the management of large establishments.

Their first choice in 1875 appears rather extraordinary. They nominated as general manager a gentleman who addressed his application from the Earlswood Asylum for Idiots.

He did *not* prove a success, for what cause I cannot say ; but in 1881, 'when the finances of the Club were not in a position to meet the loss sustained by closing the house for repairs,' they empowered the House Superintendent to purchase all provisions except groceries, and authorized him to procure a horse and trap on hire. With this vehicle he appears to have performed wonders. The authority had been granted for one year only, but the result was so satisfactory that the period was extended for another twelve months. At the end of that time the Committee were equally well pleased ; but the system had not merited the approval of other parties whose vested interests were probably invaded, and so strong an opposition was raised that the plan had to be abandoned. The conclusion that, I think, may be drawn from the facts that I have stated is that a Committee of twenty-four members, or even a House sub-Committee of six members, is too large a body to administer the government of the household, and that it would be wiser to place it under narrower control.

Our system of election of members is by open ballot, at which thirty members must actually vote in order to render it valid, and one black ball in ten excludes a candidate. As I have already mentioned, the Committee have the power to nominate as members, without ballot, noblemen and gentlemen of distinction, and they may also admit by ballot amongst themselves a candidate whose name has been submitted to public ballot, but for whom there was not a quorum of thirty members present to vote, provided that there was no black ball against him.

This system has generally worked to universal satisfaction, but, like all other systems, sometimes it breaks down. It did so in 1874, when it was resolved: 'That a member of the Committee of Management having, at the ballot for the election of members on March 3, taken part in a combination for the purpose of preventing the election of candidates, was guilty of conduct likely to endanger the stability and interrupt the harmony and good order of the Club; that he has therefore rendered himself liable to the penalty prescribed by the 46th of the Club Rules, and that he be therefore expelled.'

It appears from the printed correspondence in relation to this business that the member had nominated certain candidates who were generally regarded as undesirable, and had declined to withdraw their names notwithstanding the private expostulation of his own friends. They were consequently not elected, and he then formed a combination to black-ball *every* candidate for election. His proceeding was all the more serious because he was himself a member of the Committee of Management, as stated in the above resolution,

a position to which he clung with great pertinacity, and in consequence several of his colleagues sent in their resignations.

Harmony was restored when his withdrawal was enforced at an extraordinary general meeting of members, and since that time there have been no other similar incidents.

For many years after the formation of the Club, whenever repairs had to be effected or improvements made, we had to seek a home elsewhere while the workmen were in the house, and in this way we became at different times tenants of rooms in the Brunswick House Hotel, in the old hotel of Claridge, in 5A Tenterden Street, and in No. 17 opposite the Club, to which I have previously referred at some length, at a very considerable weekly expense. By degrees a feeling of reciprocity, of interchange of courtesies, grew up both in London and other parts; and I note that in 1841 the Brighton Club declared our members to be eligible for admission without ballot; that in 1851 we opened our doors to a large number of distinguished foreigners, and that in 1855 our members were admitted to the 'Cercle de Paris' during the time the Exhibition was open. In the seventies we accommodated the members of the East India United Service Club during the repairs of their house in St. James's Square, and in 1881 they offered us an asylum, as did also the Junior United Service of Charles Street; and this system still continues in force, to the great comfort of members of the different institutions, and to the manifest saving of expense.

Before finally closing the old books—simple chronicles of the daily life of an assembly of middle-aged gentlemen in their quiet retreat 'where the wicked are at rest,' I give one

retrospective glance at the pages that I have been reading, not without interest, although, at an earlier period of the work, I have expressed an opinion that the labour was not very edifying.

As I proceeded in my undertaking I frequently came across the names and doings of men who now live only in our country's annals—men who have faithfully performed the public duties entrusted to them, and who have long since been gathered to their fathers—soldiers, sailors, and civilians who took an active part in releasing Europe from the bondage of Napoleon, and in relieving the swarming multitudes of India from the tyrannical governments that for ages had continually disturbed the peace of the land and the happiness of its inhabitants.

Then followed the campaigns of the Sutlej, of the Crimea, and of the great Indian Rebellion, and during those times many of the figures that flit across our Club stage are relatives and friends of my own, or people whose acquaintance I have had the honour of making. And so there has grown upon me a love for our old records; but whether I am capable of instilling into my readers any sentiment similar to that which possesses me still remains to be seen.

To-day the library is very empty, and I am at liberty to throw my books open, or to close them with a bang, without drawing upon myself the reproachful glance of any member at my hasty action and breach of the rule of 'Silence.'

On May 22, 1837, the Committee held their usual meeting, and a minute of their proceedings is to this effect: 'That the Club-house be illuminated on the Princess Victoria's birthday.'



This is the first mention that I encounter of Her late Majesty, and it seems suddenly to have dawned upon our governing body that the Princess was in close proximity to a throne to which she succeeded in less than a month from the date of their resolution. And while I read it I can hear the boom of the Horse Artillery guns as they salute the passage of the 'Great Queen' across the Park from her island home on the Solent to her last resting-place at Frogmore.

Casually one learns a good deal of history, or at least one's memory is refreshed as to dates, in reading these old records. The house is to be illuminated on the coronation of Her Majesty (1838), on her marriage with Prince Albert (1840), on the birth of the Prince of Wales (1841), now His Gracious Majesty King Edward VII. Special attention is to be paid to filling in the papers of the sixth census of the United Kingdom (March 30, 1851), when, on reference, I find that the population was 27,637,761; and in the same year each servant is to be allowed a gratuity in order that he or she may attend the first Great Exhibition, and the Standing Orders are suspended to admit at once as honorary members of the Club four young officers of the Honourable East India Company's Service—G. A. Craster, H. A. Brownlow, W. S. Trevor, and J. R. Soady, of the Bengal Engineers—who, in accordance with the regulations of that time, are attached as ensigns in Her Majesty's service to the Royal Engineer establishment at Chatham, and who are temporarily employed at the International Exhibition, Hyde Park.

On November 18, 1852, all the blinds of the house are to be drawn down.



The nation is honouring the Waterloo hero with a public funeral, and the Club is deploring the loss of its first President.

In 1856, on May 29, there is again an illumination on the proclamation of peace with Russia, and early in 1858 we purchase a new illuminating device, in order to do greater honour to the Princess Royal on her marriage with Prince Frederick William of Prussia. I have a vivid recollection of an incident that followed shortly after that event.

One bitterly cold day, when the fair county of Kent was covered with a white sheet, and snow was falling over half of England, the Royal couple took their departure from our shores.

Gravesend was to be the last spot on which the Princess touched British ground, and in that town assembled the Commandants of the District and of the Royal Engineers from Chatham with their respective Staffs, bedizened and beplumed, but wrapped in cloaks and overcoats; and the West Kent Yeomanry had the honour of furnishing the escort. There, too, assembled the mayor and civic authorities and other public officials of the little Thames port. Nowadays everything moves like clockwork when Royalty travels; trains arrive punctually at their destination, every official knows his place and his duty, and a path is kept clear for the passage of the distinguished visitors.

But at the time of which I am writing the world was not so well accustomed to the movements of members of the Royal Family, and consequently sometimes there were slight hitches in the arrangements for their reception. So there were on this occasion. The train was late, and the escort was lost.

The Lord Darnley who then reigned at Cobham, and who was in command of the regiment, had missed his way, or had got his troop into a fix from which he could not easily release it.

At length the train arrived, and the Prince Consort emerged from the Royal carriage with the Princess leaning upon his arm. For a bride she looked very unhappy and miserable, and I fancy she had been weeping during the whole journey from town. Poor young lady, she had just taken leave of her mother and her brothers and sisters, and was leaving a happy home for a new and unknown world!<sup>1</sup>

Their Royal Highnesses were followed by that gallant and noble figure the Crown Prince of Prussia, afterwards H.I.M. Frederick III., German Emperor for the brief period of three months, leading a lady of honour, and then came, also with a lady, that well-known character the late Lord Alfred Paget, general and yachtsman, wearing a very heavy rough pilot-coat, for he was to accompany the Royal couple across the water. Last of all emerged from the train a slight, well-built young gentleman, whose personal appearance at that time was little known to the general public, but whose name has been a household word amongst us for many years, formerly as Prince of Wales and now as His Majesty the King. The crowd had already pushed in between him and the remainder of the party, and it was not without some difficulty that he succeeded in getting through and rejoining his friends, who were on the point of entering their carriages.

At that moment up came the escort. The Staff had already

<sup>1</sup> Since the above was written the hand of death has removed this royal and gracious lady.

closed round the vehicles, but still the procession was delayed. The gallant Colonel of the West Kent claimed the right to follow immediately after the Royal carriages—between them and the Staff—and, as his Lordship suffered from a slight impediment in his speech, the discussion was somewhat loud and prolonged. At length it ended, and the procession reached the uncovered pier or mole, along which the Royal party and their attendants had to walk through the thickly falling snow, under the leadership of the Mayor. Now his Worship had suffered the loss of one of his legs, and its place had been taken by a wooden one—not one of the fashionable description, that is called erroneously a cork leg, and is carefully hidden under a nether garment and fitted with a well-made boot, but simply a *wooden stump*; and as the Royal party followed him to the music of its thud-thud, suddenly it got jammed in the interstices of the timber flooring of the mole. The procession had to come to a momentary halt while his Worship was being released from his awkward position, but the incident was received with that kindly good-humour and imperturbable serenity which are characteristic of the members of the Royal Family.

I might record many other entries in the minutes relating to public events, but I must confine myself to matters more closely allied to the private affairs of the Club.

In this same year—1858—a curious instance of *absent-mindedness* is recorded. A gentleman was proposed as a candidate, properly seconded, and in due course elected.

He paid his entrance fee and subscription for the current year, and shortly afterwards writes to the Secretary that the whole proceeding is a mistake, that he had intended to join

the East India United Service Club, and not the Oriental, and therefore requests that his name may be removed from the list, and his money returned to him. Certainly; his name shall be struck off, but no money can be returned. How could this gentleman have gone through the process of asking at least one member of the Club to interest himself on his behalf, to place his name on the list of candidates, and to induce some other member to second him? How could he have received notice that he had been elected, sent his cheque in payment of fees, and only then discovered that the thing was a mistake? It is an odd case.

Incidentally we obtain some information as to the durability of materials. In thirty-three years it appears that the name and crest of the Club had been entirely worn off the silver, and had to be renewed; in forty years the stones forming the doorsteps, from constant wear and tear, are in a dangerous condition, and must be replaced; and in forty-five years six dozen silver teaspoons for the same cause have to be condemned as useless.

In those days, when Her Majesty's Ministers had their annual whitebait dinner at Blackwall or Greenwich, and the consumption of the delicate little fish was confined to a short season, we were given to eating it in another form—namely, that of *sprats*—and the Committee, unable to resist the demand for them, but anxious not to offend the sensitiveness of some delicate members, authorizes them to be served, but they are not to be *mentioned* on the bill of fare.

Authors and book-makers are not encouraged. Colonel Hough was a prolific writer, and presented us with several copies of his works. In the course of his researches he was

in the habit of raising a barriade of books around his seat, but he was informed that he could only be permitted to occupy the space necessary for writing a letter.

I have already mentioned that the original Club-house was the large block at the corner of Hanover Square, consisting of the ground floor and one storey above it, while the kitchens stretched along Tenterden Street, rising very little above the level of the ground.

Wyatt, in designing the building, evidently had the intention of assimilating its appearance to that of the house built by Adams at the corner of Harewood Place, so far as regards the pilasters with which it is provided, and which are also found in the frontage of the Royal Academy of Music, which was refaced about the same time as our house was erected ; but while their capitals are Doric, ours are Corinthian, and very elaborately moulded.

When in 1853 specifications were submitted by Mr. Decimus Burton for the enlargement of the house accommodation, by building a large strangers' room, the same description of frontage was included ; but apparently, when the new smoking-room was commenced, under the superintendence of his son, Mr. Henry M. Burton, in 1871, our funds were not sufficient to meet the expense of such costly ornamentation, and the frontage of this last addition to our house is very simple and devoid of architectural adornment.

The smoking-room is, however, a very handsome apartment—43 feet long by  $24\frac{1}{2}$  in breadth, with a height of 17 feet 5 inches. It has large windows on all sides, but is well protected from the north and east winds, and is seldom unpleasantly cold. The Committee very wisely left a centre gaslight in the roof

when the electric light was adopted, and when this is turned on the temperature is quickly raised.

The room is situated immediately above the kitchens, and probably in the course of time will be converted into a coffee-room; while this room, on the ground floor, of still larger dimensions, being 54 feet by 31, and of the same height as the smoking-room, will probably be ceded to the lovers of tobacco, and will be the prize of the victors in the long war that has been waged for half a century on the question of smoke.

We have still a large area for the extension of our buildings, and our premises are so situated that with a little discrimination and diplomacy we could secure direct admittance from Bond Street itself into our house, and I should imagine that we might then regard ourselves as being within the sacred limits of Club-land.



## CHAPTER VII

## OUR ORIGINAL MEMBERS

IN stating the causes that led to the institution of our Club, I have given as one of them the natural desire of King's and Company's officers, both civil and military, who had served together in the Courts and camps of India to avoid a complete severance of their social interests on their return home from active service. I ought to have added 'naval' to the description of officers who were animated with this desire, for in our early days we had many members of that noble profession.

I am not certain that my reasoning is clear, and therefore I will give a few typical examples of the class of men to whom I alluded.

Take, for instance, the Hon. Sir Henry Blackwood, Vice-Admiral, K.C.B., G.C.H., and a Baronet (1770-1832). Blackwood was Captain of H.M.S. 'Euryalus' at the battle of Trafalgar, and brought home the dispatches announcing the glorious result of the combat, and the still more glorious death of the victor. In 1819 he was appointed Commander-in-Chief of the Naval Forces in the East Indies, and there he contracted intimate acquaintances and friendly relations with many of the Company's servants, which on his return

home inclined him to become at once a subscriber to the Club.

Henry was a younger son of Sir John Blackwood, already a Baronet, but the title was conferred upon him personally as a new creation and as a reward for his services. His mother was Dorcas, daughter of James Stevenson, Esq., of Killyleagh, who was afterwards created Baroness Dufferin and Clandeboye, and was the progenitor of that distinguished family of which the present head is the Marquess of Dufferin and Ava, who in his time has been Governor-General of Canada and of India, and who, in view of the many and varied official and arduous duties that he has performed in the service of his country, is said to have described himself, in a pleasant after-dinner speech, as the 'Government's maid-of-all-work.'

Another of our naval members, running through them in alphabetical order, was Admiral Sir Philip Charles Durham, G.C.B. (1763-1845); but I must confess that his name on our rolls is not confirmatory of my statement that King's and Company's officers desired to maintain at home the connections that had united them in the East, for I cannot find that the Admiral ever served on the India or China station. Nevertheless, he was a very distinguished officer, who had a curious experience in his early manhood, for he was on board the 'Royal George' when she sank at her moorings at Spithead on August 29, 1782.

Fortunately, being officer of the watch, he was on deck at the time of the occurrence, and was picked up after being an hour in the water.

After the declaration of war in 1793 he was successful in making the first capture from the enemy, that of the

‘Afrique,’ a French privateer, and after serving all through the war he was present at the crowning victory of Trafalgar, where he was badly wounded.

As Commander-in-Chief in the West Indies and in the Mediterranean, he performed great services and won high honours, and on his retirement he was elected a Member of Parliament.

It seems probable that his connection with our Club arose out of his professional intimacy and personal friendship with the second Viscount Exmouth, who joined us as Captain Pownoll Bastard Pellew, R.N., but who in 1833 succeeded to the title that his father had won for the service that he rendered to humanity in general by destroying the nests of pirates and of holders of Christian slaves in the Barbary States. Captain Pellew saw a good deal of service in the East Indies, and was nephew of another naval celebrity, Sir Israel Pellew, K.C.B., who commanded the ‘Conqueror’ at Trafalgar.

John Elphinstone, whose name appears on the original prospectus of the Club, was not strictly a naval officer, but probably he was a much richer man than the King’s servants, for he commanded an East Indiaman, and in course of time became a director of the Company. He was a grandson of the tenth Baron Elphinstone and great-uncle of the Hon. Mountstuart Elphinstone (*q.v.*).

Vice-Admiral Sir Richard King, Bart., K.C.B. (1774–1834), was also a member of our first Committee. His father, whom he succeeded in 1810, was Admiral Sir Richard King, and he left a son, Sir George, also an Admiral.

Our member commenced his naval career in the East Indies under Admiral Sir William Cornwallis, and in 1816 he

returned to that station as Commander-in-Chief of the Naval Forces, an appointment that he held until 1820.

Vice-Admiral Sir Pulteney Malcolm, G.C.B., G.C.M.G. (1768–1838), was another original member of the Club, a trustee for the debenture-holders, and a chairman of the Committee.

Sometimes I have pictured to myself a group of men occupying our libraries in the early part of the thirties—a quartette—each member of which played a part in the great events of the first quarter of the last century.

Sir John, a younger but still more distinguished son of George Malcolm, of Burnfoot, is seated at a table writing one of his political essays on the government of India, and at another opposite to him Sir Hudson Lowe is employed, as usual, in memorializing the British Government with regard to his claims for pension and compensation. Between the two, up and down the long room, stalks the tall broad figure of Sir Pulteney as though he were tramping the quarter-deck of his flag-ship, and every now and then he halts to reply to some query addressed to him by Lowe relative to incidents that occurred when years ago the two were employed in maintaining strict guard in and around the island of St. Helena over the mighty but fallen conqueror, the Great Napoleon ; or perhaps he turns to a younger man who is standing at the window looking down into Tenterden Street, Major Basil Jackson, of the Royal Staff Corps, who probably had more frequent communication with the Emperor than either of his superior officers.

Sir Pulteney was Commander-in-Chief in 1816–1817 on the St. Helena station, specially appointed to enforce a rigid

blockade ; Sir Hudson was Governor of the island from 1815-21 ; and Basil Jackson was an officer who had the latter's confidence, and was employed in the Quartermaster-General's department.

It seems to me curious, but I suppose that there is nothing wonderful in the fact, that I have frequently conversed with a man who had stood in the presence of the Great Napoleon, had been constantly on duty at Longwood, and had been on many occasions admitted into the house when the entrance of the Governor was rigidly barred. Lieut.-Colonel Jackson, as he ultimately became, served under Lowe in the Netherlands, and afterwards accompanied him to St. Helena. Later on he was appointed Professor of Surveying at Addiscombe, and held that office until the college was abolished, when he retired on a pension.

He had been present at the battle of Waterloo, and was very proud of being a member of the Royal Staff Corps, which, he said, was the predecessor of the Royal Engineers. He published his 'Notes and Reminiscences,' and was a great partisan of Sir Hudson Lowe, but not an independent witness, for they were connected by family ties, the second son of Lowe, afterwards Major-General E. W. Howe de Lancey Lowe, of the 32nd Regiment, an officer who served throughout the second Sikh war, and who distinguished himself during the Mutiny, having married a daughter of Colonel Jackson.

Jackson always maintained that the French were themselves more bitter against the Emperor than any other nation of Europe, for there was scarcely a home on the country-side that did not bewail the loss of one or more of its members, who had been absorbed in the great vortex of conscription for

the service of 'La Patrie,' and had never come back ; and that the attacks made upon his chief for oppression and harsh treatment of his Imperial prisoner were never made during His Majesty's life, but were fabricated in this country, and at a much later date were adopted in France during a resuscitation of Napoleonic worship.

He pointed his story by mentioning the fact that the son-in-law to whom I have referred, when travelling in Switzerland long after the death of the Emperor, was called to account by a party of French gentlemen on the score of his being the son of Sir Hudson, and very gallantly met his man in the early morning.

The bones of the unfortunate Governor of St. Helena will probably never be allowed to rest in their grave for any lengthened period. The last time they were shaken was by Lord Rosebery's 'Napoleon,' and it is well within the range of possibility that a descendant of the Emperor may some day assume a prominent position on the world's stage, when, of course, they will be again turned over.

Lord Rosebery's work brought forth some very curious comments and criticisms.

The following passage, taken from 'Truth,'<sup>1</sup> is extraordinary for this reason, that in the whole of it there is not one single word of truth. The writer of the 'Notes from Paris' tells us that 'Sir Hudson Lowe was an East Indian official, and used to those methods of the Company in treating princes they deposed. Sir Hudson was out of touch with Europe in the Napoleonic time. His health was bad from living in the tropics. In short, he was an old Indian. Sir

<sup>1</sup> November 8, 1900.



Hudson Lowe came, after leaving St. Helena, to live at Passy, in his time a charming country town near Paris. He died and was buried there.'

On reading that miraculous chain of misstatements, I charitably supposed that the author had by mistake adopted the biography of some other Lowe, of whom there were several in the Indian service, but it does not correspond to any of them; and, although I called the attention of the editor to the error that had crept into his interesting weekly, it has been allowed to remain, and has probably been accepted by the readers of 'Truth' as a concise and truthful summary of the career of a prominent figure in the first quarter of the last century. It may therefore be well to state that Sir Hudson Lowe was a King's officer, and not an East Indian official; that he was never in India proper, and, consequently, was not used to those methods of the Company in treating princes they deposed. Sir Hudson was serving in Europe during the whole Napoleonic time, and was the first officer to bring to England the news of the fall of Paris in 1814. He had never lived in the tropics, and in no sense could he be styled 'an old Indian.' In August 1815, at the request of the British Government, he was appointed Governor of St. Helena by the Court of Directors, the island being at that time a possession of the East India Company.

On his return home he was made Colonel of the 93rd Highlanders, and in 1824 he was nominated second in command at Ceylon. While holding this office he left his family in France, but he never resided there himself. He died at Charlotte Cottage, near Sloane Street, Chelsea, in 1844, at the age of seventy-five years, and was buried in London.

But I have wandered from my subject, which was that of briefly mentioning some of the distinguished naval officers who were members of the Club in the early years of its institution.

I have already stated that Sir Pulteney was the third of the Malcolm brothers, Sir John the fourth, and Sir Charles, a vice-admiral and also a member, the tenth.

Sir Pulteney entered the naval service at a very early age, and was actively employed during the greater part of his life under such well-known officers as Admirals Sir Alexander Cochrane, Sir George Cockburn, and Viscount Keith, whose niece, Clementina, eldest daughter of the Hon. William Fullarton Elphinstone, a Director of the East India Company, he married.

He rose to be an Admiral, and was created a G.C.B. and G.C.M.G., and died in 1838. I should think it exceptional in history to find statues erected in memory of two brothers, but I have already mentioned that of Sir John Malcolm in Westminster Abbey, and in St. Paul's Cathedral there is another of his gallant naval brother, Sir Pulteney, by Bailey.

The Royal naval members who joined the Club on its foundation had very few successors, but we had upon our rolls the names of several commanders of East Indiamen. I have already mentioned Lieutenant Waghorn, R.N., as a member, and I may record too the name of Captain John Wood, of the Indian Navy, who performed a very arduous and dangerous work in surveying the Oxus, a great river of Central Asia.

Of the King's military servants who were early members

of the Club, the first officer of high distinction, in alphabetical order, is General Sir Edward Barnes, G.C.B., who served on the Staff in the Peninsula, and commanded a brigade at the battles of Vittoria, the Pyrenees, Nive, Orthes, &c., and, as Adjutant-General, was severely wounded at Waterloo. He was appointed Commander-in-Chief in Madras in 1824, and from 1831 to 1833 was Commander-in-Chief of the Royal and Company's forces in India. He was afterwards Governor of Ceylon, and died in 1838.

William Carr Beresford, Viscount Beresford (1768–1854), a General in His Majesty's service, and a Marshal in the Portuguese Army, was a natural son of the first Marquess of Waterford, and arrived in India with the 88th Regiment (Connaught Rangers) just after the fall of Seringapatam. Shortly afterwards the regiment was sent to Egypt, and joined the expedition under Sir David Baird.

For some time Beresford was Governor of Madeira, which was held by the British for the King of Portugal, then an exile, and from there he crossed to Portugal and served throughout the Peninsular campaign. In the first Government of the Duke of Wellington, in 1824, he was made Master-General of the Ordnance.

In the old days of the Army purchase system there were very few Scotchmen who possessed the requisite means for entering the military service in home regiments and gradually buying their steps, and so they sought for employment in India and the Peninsula, where there were plenty of hard knocks, but where a company might be picked up through death steps or as a reward for distinguished service in the field. It is not, therefore, surprising to find on our list

of original members no fewer than seven King's officers bearing the name of Campbell, all of whom had seen active service in India, and some of them had held high positions in that country. The more prominent names are those of Sir Alexander, Sir Archibald, and Sir Colin Campbell.

I have already mentioned Sir Alexander Campbell in connection with Sir John Malcolm, on whom, when Commander-in-Chief of the Madras Army, he bestowed his second daughter in marriage. Colonel Campbell, as he then was, on his return to Europe, saw a great deal of active work in the Peninsular campaign, and was rewarded for his gallant services with a baronetcy and the Order of the Bath.

Lieutenant-General Sir Archibald Campbell, G.C.B. (1769–1843), has also been mentioned. He was in India in 1788, serving under Sir Robert Abercrombie, and was present at the first siege of Seringapatam. He afterwards served in the Peninsula, chiefly with Portuguese troops, and received the order of the Tower and Sword.

In 1821 he returned to India and was appointed to the command of the expedition against the Burmese. He was Colonel of the 62nd Regiment and Lieut.-Governor of New Brunswick. He was created a Baronet in 1831, and was a member of the Club until his death in 1843.

General Sir Colin Campbell, K.C.B. (1776–1847), fifth son of John Campbell of Melfort, commenced his patriotic services by running away from home and going to sea. As midshipman on board an East Indiaman he made one or two voyages, and afterwards obtained a commission in a West India regiment.

By some means he found his way to India, and at the battle of Assaye was wounded, and had two horses killed under him. He was through the Peninsular war, and was on the Staff of the Duke of Wellington at the battle of Waterloo. He was afterwards made Lieut.-Governor of Nova Scotia, and later on promoted to the Governorship of Ceylon, which appointment he held from 1839 to the year of his decease.

The name of Sir Alured Clarke, G.C.B. (1745–1832), appears in the list of the original Committee of the Club. He was a very distinguished King's officer, who served in Germany, America, and at the Cape of Good Hope in 1795. In 1797 he was Commander-in-Chief in Bengal and senior member of the Council, and in that capacity he officiated as Governor-General of Fort William on the retirement of Sir John Shore (Lord Teignmouth). In 1798 he was appointed Commander-in-Chief in India, and in course of time was promoted to the rank of field-marshal.

Sir George De Lacy Evans, G.C.B. (1787–1870), Colonel of the 21st Royal Scots Fusiliers, had a very extraordinary career. An Irishman by birth, he joined the army in India as a volunteer in 1806. In 1812 he was through the Peninsular campaign, and afterwards went out to the United States as Quartermaster-General. He returned to Europe in time to be present at Waterloo, where he had two horses killed under him. He was appointed chief in command of the unfortunate British Legion raised for the service of Christina, Queen Regent of Spain, against Don Carlos; and at the outbreak of the war with Russia, in 1854, he was nominated to command the Second Division, and was present



at the Alma and Inkerman. He was an ardent politician and a great Radical, and sat in the House for some years as member for Westminster.

Major-General Sir Colquhoun Grant, K.C.B., is peculiarly typical of the Royal officers who served with the Company's troops, and made life-long friendships with Indian men. He commenced his career in India in 1790 as an ensign in the 36th Regiment. A little later he exchanged into the 25th Light Dragoons, and during the Mysore campaign was a brilliant cavalry officer, but for the capture of Seringapatam by Lord Harris he left his saddle and served gallantly on foot. He was present at the capture of the Cape of Good Hope, in 1806, by Sir David Baird, and commanded the 15th Hussars during Sir John Moore's campaign in Spain, and was badly wounded at Sahagun.

He was present at Morales and Vittoria, and commanded a brigade at the battle of Waterloo, during which he had five horses killed or shot. He was made an A.D.C. to the Prince Regent, and died in 1835.

Lieut.-General Sir Thomas Hislop, Bart., G.C.B. (1764-1843), was a member of our first Committee, and was a very distinguished officer, whose father was a colonel of Royal Artillery, and whose two brothers were killed on service in India. He was present as a subaltern of the 39th Regiment during the bombardment and siege of Gibraltar, and served for many years on the Continent, and in the West Indies, where he was Governor of Trinidad. He was afterwards appointed Commander-in-Chief of the forces in the Bombay Establishment, but the British frigate 'Java,' in which he had taken passage,



was captured by the American war-ship 'Constitution,' and he was made a prisoner. After his exchange had been effected, he was appointed Commander-in-Chief of the Madras Army, and in 1817 commanded the Army of the Deccan.

His conduct during the campaign was called in question, especially in regard to his severe treatment of the garrison of Talher, but his action was warmly defended by the Duke of Wellington. In 1822 he received an 'honourable augmentation' to his arms in recognition of his distinguished services in India.

Lieut.-General Sir Miles Nightingall, K.C.B., another of our original members, joined the 52nd Regiment at Madras in 1787. He must have been a very interesting addition to our Club, for, besides the distinguished military services that he rendered during the operations in Mysore and the Peninsula, he had conducted several political negotiations and was sent by the Government in 1798 on a diplomatic commission or agency to Toussaint l'Ouverture, the celebrated but unfortunate Negro chieftain of St. Domingo. In 1813 he was appointed to the chief command in Java, and from 1816-1819 he was Commander-in-Chief at Bombay.

For several years he was member of Parliament for Eye in Suffolk. He died in 1829.

The name of Sir George Nugent, Bart., G.C.B. (1757-1849), also appears in the original prospectus. He was an infantry officer who served in several Royal regiments during the American war and the campaign in Flanders. In 1801 he was appointed Lieut.-Governor and Commander-in-Chief in Jamaica, and ten years later became Commander-in-Chief

of the King's and Company's forces in the East Indies. He rose to be a field-marshal, and is the fourth officer of that exalted rank whom we have numbered amongst our members, the others having been Sir Alured Clarke, the Great Duke, and Sir George Pollock.

Baron William de Tuyll, an original member, belonged to a Dutch family, and with his brother, Baron Charles, joined the British Army and served in the Peninsula. Baron William was in India and also at Waterloo, and was placed on half-pay and gazetted colonel in 1820.

Members of the same family are now permanently located in England and are well known in the hunting field.

Lieut.-General Sir Samuel Ford Whittingham, K.C.B., was a distinguished cavalry officer, who served chiefly with Spanish troops during the Peninsular war, and was severely wounded at Talavera. In 1822 he went out to India as Quartermaster-General, and remained there until 1835, when he was appointed to the chief command of the forces in the Windward and Leeward Islands. In 1840 he returned to India as Commander-in-Chief of the Madras establishment, but his tenure of that position was very short, for he died in January 1841.

I have now mentioned, I hope at not too great a length, some of the King's naval and military officers who joined the Oriental Club in its early days, chiefly on account of the friendships that they had formed while serving in the Far East. We claim no exclusive right to them, for the majority were eligible as, and probably were, members of the strictly 'Service' Club that then existed, but we are proud of them because they came voluntarily to associate themselves with

old comrades of the Company's service, who had left their rank, and grades, and titles, at the Cape of Good Hope when on the journey homeward bound.

Amongst our early members there are several whom I cannot directly connect with Eastern lands, service in which, according to the prospectus, entitled them to become candidates. Some of them were men of title, and others were members of the Asiatic Society. The former may have followed in the footsteps of our ducal President, and the latter came in by right.

Andrew Thomas, eleventh Baron Blaney (1770-1834), was a Lieut.-General in His Majesty's forces, and a distinguished officer, but I do not find that he ever served in India. He was, however, connected with the East, for he was born in Egypt.

He was present at the recapture of the Cape of Good Hope, and accompanied the luckless expedition of General Whitelocke to Buenos Ayres. He had an unpleasant experience of active service, for in an ill-conceived attack on Malaga in 1810, during the Peninsular war, he was captured by the French, and kept prisoner until 1814.

Sir J. David Erskine, first Baronet, of Cambo, Fife (1792-1841), was an original member, and unconnected with India ; but although he himself was not a legitimate branch of the Kellie earldom, yet the Club has rarely been without a representative of that family, and one of them, Lieut.-Colonel W. C. Erskine, announced to the Committee in 1865 that he had succeeded to the title, and at the same time forwarded a serious complaint that he was not permitted to have ginger-beer in the drawing-room.

The peerage of Selsey is, I believe, extinct, but we had an original member in the person of Henry John, second Lord Selsey, of Selsey, in Sussex. The first peer was Sir James Peachey, fourth Baronet, Groom of the Bedchamber to the Prince of Wales and Master of the Robes to George III., but I cannot connect the family with any sort of service in the East.

Macklew is a surname that I have never encountered except on the Register of East India Stock-holders and on the rolls of our Club, of which he was an original and very active member.

Mr. Andrew Macklew appears to have been a wealthy man, for he was always ready to subscribe for debentures or to make a loan to the Committee when they were in difficulties ; but for the rest, my knowledge of him is confined to the fact that he resided at 1F Albany.

Shillibeer is another rare surname, and when I met with it on our books I was in hopes that we had been honoured with the presence of the inventor or introducer of omnibuses ; but alas ! no, our Mr. Shillibeer was a barrister-at-law.

It has been a pleasant duty to turn over pages of biographies, of Army Registers, and of other records, and to dot down brief memoirs of the King's naval and military officers who were members of our Club, but it is time that I should make some reference to the servants of the Honourable East India Company, both military and civil, by whom and for whose social comfort the Club was really founded.

To give a list of our members who have lent a hand in

the creation of the British empire in India, who have taken part in its government, and who have assisted in its maintenance ; of those civilians who in times of dire necessity have taken sword in hand ; of those military men who in more peaceful days have performed, and performed successfully, grave and serious political functions ; of those young writers and cadets, boys from school, who when called upon to face situations of sudden and unexpected danger and difficulty have acted like bearded men, and have calmly conquered or met death at their posts, would be, too, a pleasant duty, but it would entail a very close study of all the occurrences that have taken place in our vast Eastern possessions during upwards of a century, of the great and little wars, of the many outbreaks large and small, and of the great Rebellion itself.

Space will only allow me to refer to some of our more prominent members, and that I propose to do without any very strict regard to order of precedence or dates of membership.

Amongst the Governors of India we have had on our rolls Sir Alured Clarke and Mr. Butterworth Bayley, Officiating Governors-General of Fort William, in Bengal, as the title was in their day, and Lord William Henry Cavendish Bentinck, who was the first Governor-General in India. This last was followed by Sir Charles T. Metcalfe, who was only *officiating*, but he held the appointment for a year, and his portrait has been added to the gallery at Government House, Calcutta, as though he had been actually confirmed in that high office. He gave way to Lord Auckland, whom I have already mentioned as a member elected by the Committee,

and was shortly followed by Sir Henry (Viscount) Hardinge, G.C.B., to whom also reference has been made. Of the Viceroy and Governors-General of India, a title first conferred on Lord Canning in 1856, Sir John Laird Mair (Baron Lawrence) was one of our members, and the names of Major-General Sir Robert Cornelis Napier, K.C.B., Baron Napier of Magdala, and of Sir John Strachey, both of them *officiating* Viceroy, are also on our rolls.

I have already mentioned several of the Governors of Bombay whom we have counted amongst our members, but there was one of Madras of whom a few words should be written.

I refer to Edward, second Lord Clive and first Earl of Powis, who presented the Club with a portrait of his distinguished father. He was Governor of the Presidency from 1798 to 1803, and is said to have been a man of great energy and remarkable physical strength. Even when eighty years of age he was accustomed to rise at six in the morning and work in his garden in his shirt-sleeves. In the Upper School at Eton the name of 'Clive' stands in very large letters. It is the signature of the second Lord, the one to whom I am referring, and not of the founder of the Indian Empire, as many visitors have supposed, for *his* last school was the Merchant Taylors'.

Of the Court of Directors of the H.E.I.C., who certainly took a very prominent part in the government of India in the early part of the last century, we have on our original list the names of many members; for example, Mr. Josias Dupré Alexander, who sold us his house; Lieut.-Colonel John Baillie, M.P., formerly Resident at Lucknow, who established the



celebrated 'Guard' or 'Gate' in that city, which is always known by his patronymic, and to which Lord Tennyson refers in the ballad entitled 'The Defence of Lucknow,' although the name is misspelt :

Storm at the Water-gate ! Storm at the Bailey-gate ! storm, and it ran  
Surging and swaying all round us, as ocean on every side  
Plunges and heaves at a bank that is daily drown'd by the tide. . . .

Colonel Baillie's name is also connected with a more pacific institution, for he was a student of Oriental languages, and in 1801 was appointed Professor of Arabic, Persian, and Moham-medan Law at the College of Fort William, established in that year. The large and choice collection of Oriental books and MSS. that he made during his lifetime is now in the possession of the University of Edinburgh, having been presented by his nearest heirs of entail.

Sir James Rivett Carnac, John Elphinstone, Sir Robert Townsend Farquhar (Governor of the Mauritius), and Henry St. George Tucker, are all on our original list, and from time to time almost all the Directors of the Court have been members of the Club. When the Council of India was established in 1858, out of its fifteen members, eleven belonged to the Club.

Of the Board of Control, which was abolished when the Council was formed, at least one President was an original member. This was the Right Hon. Charles Watkin Williams-Wynn (1775-1850), who, in addition to holding that Cabinet appointment, was also at different periods Secretary of State for War and Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster. He was also a member of the Alfred Club.

I have already mentioned that Major Carmichael-Smyth

was Superintendent of the Military College at Addiscombe, where he was frequently visited by his celebrated stepson, W. M. Thackeray. After his retirement the appointment was made a lieutenant-governorship, the actual Governor being, I presume, the Court of Directors, and the three officers who held the position—namely, Colonel Robert Houstoun, C.B., Bengal Light Cavalry; Sir Ephraim G. Stannus, who died very suddenly in 1850; and Major-General Sir Frederic Abbott, C.B., Bengal Engineers—were all of them on our list of members. So also was General Sir Edward Paget, G.C.B., Governor of the Royal Hospital at Chelsea (1837–1849), who lost his right arm at Oporto, and the Earl of Munster, who has already been mentioned, was Governor and Constable of Windsor Castle.

Running through our general list of members during a period of some seventy years, I have picked out a few names to whose owners some interest has attached.

Sir Cecil Beadon, formerly Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, and General Sir George Balfour, a very distinguished officer of the Bengal Artillery, were great cronies, and sat together as directors on the board of a public company. In connection with this occupation, a third member of the Club inserted in 'The Times' a very libellous letter, and thence resulted an action in 1876 before Lord Coleridge, when the third member was cast in heavy damages. Sir Cecil and Sir George, the successful litigants, thereupon request the Committee to call an extraordinary general meeting for the purpose of considering the conduct of the 'third member,' but the Committee decline on the ground that it is not a case which

demands the exercise of special measures, and they further add that the honour of Sir Cecil and Sir George had been vindicated and substantially solaced. So libeller and libelled had to meet under the same roof, and appear to have done so without any marked discord. There were three members of the name of Boulderson on our original list, all of them in the Company's service, and we still count upon our rolls a gentleman of the Bengal Civil Service bearing the same patronymic.

The unfortunate Lieut.-Colonel Sir Alexander Burnes (1805-1841), who was massacred at Cabul in the latter year with his younger brother and his assistant, Lieut. William Broadfoot, joined us in 1835. He is said to have been of the same family as Robert Burns the poet, and was a clever linguist, and travelled over the Punjab, Afghanistan, Bokhara, Persia, and the Caspian.

William Butterworth Bayley I have already mentioned as Acting Governor-General. He was born in 1782, and went to India as a writer in 1799. In 1840 he was elected Chairman of the Court of Directors. He died in 1860. His son, Sir Steuart Bayley, was Chief Commissioner in Assam, and his nephew, Sir Edward Clive Bayley, rose to be a member of the Supreme Council.

I have mentioned several distinguished officers of the name of Campbell, but in addition to them we had a member to whom a tragic legend is attached.

This was a Colonel Campbell, younger brother of Major-General Charles Campbell, who was a claimant to the Breadalbane peerage. The Colonel is said to have married

the Princess Victoria Guaramma of Coorg, at whose baptism Her late Majesty Queen Victoria stood sponsor, and to have left the Club late one evening in the seventies with a small bag in his hand. From that time he was never heard of again. Every effort was made to trace him, but proved unsuccessful, and there were the usual surmises and speculations to account for his sudden disappearance. Some said suicide, but according to the statements that have been made to me, which are, however, simply rumours, he was in good health, and not in pecuniary difficulties. The only basis for that supposition is the fact that on the table in the apartments in North Audley Street that he was occupying\* at the time was found the latchkey which he usually carried about with him, and this was taken as an indication that he had no intention of returning.

The mystery has never been unravelled to the best of my belief, nor, in my opinion, based on the evidence kindly offered to me, is it likely to be. One member has stated that he was playing cards with Campbell on the very night of the occurrence, but he could not remember the year ; another, who knew him equally well, has assured me that the whole story relates to another club and not to the Oriental. This assertion I am inclined to doubt, for there is a Mr. Campbell of ' Coorg ' still on our rolls who might throw some light on the subject, but who, unfortunately, at the present time is absent from the country.

Carus D. Cunningham was a very modern member, but although he died at the early age of thirty-nine, he had already distinguished himself in the region of the Alps as an energetic mountaineer, and in collaboration with Sir Francis

Adams he produced the 'History of the Swiss Confederation,' and he also wrote 'The Pioneers of the Alps.'<sup>1</sup>

The Carnichaels were a numerous family in the Indian service, and I have mentioned several who were members; so also were the Colvins, and David Colvin, B.C.S., is on our original list. Sir J. E. Colebrooke, third Baronet, and M.P. for North Lanark (1761-1838), was a distinguished civilian and provisional member of Council at Bengal. Charles Chester, another civilian who did grand service during the mutiny and who joined us in 1844 and remained a member until his death in 1899, will be remembered by many of his colleagues for his ardent love of cricket. He was nominated a Writer in the Bengal Civil Service in 1833, and was Deputy Collector at some station in the North-West Provinces when he was joined by an artillery officer who had recently obtained an appointment on the Revenue Survey. This was Captain Henry M. Lawrence, but in after years he won world-wide fame as Brigadier-General Sir Henry Montgomery Lawrence, K.C.B., who died so gallantly during the defence of Lucknow in 1857. As he himself said when death's cold hand was upon him, he was a man who 'had tried to do his duty,' and

<sup>1</sup> He was somewhat of a *gourmand*, and, the following recipe having merited his approval, he caused a number of copies to be made for the benefit of devotees of curries:

MR. G. H. BATTEN'S RECIPE FOR BOILING RICE FOR CURRY.

Take a large pot and fill it with water. When boiling put in the rice (the rice should be Patna rice—*i.e.* small grained—and should be well washed in cold water) with a little salt and squeeze of a lemon. Let the rice boil twelve minutes; then check the boiling by pouring in half a tumbler of cold water. Take the pot off the fire and drain off all the water. Then put the pot on a hot plate, or on the corner of the fire, with the lid half off. Let the rice steam for twenty minutes, occasionally shaking the pot. This process separates the grains of rice.—C.D.C.



well he succeeded, for he was indefatigable in his work, and history records the devoted services that he rendered in the military and civil positions that he held from time to time. But he was full of energy, and his temper was hot and impetuous, and when he joined Chester he was determined to make his new broom in the Revenue Survey Department sweep widely and extensively. He complained that civilians did not go enough amongst the native population ; did not make inquiries into their habits and customs, and generally did not study them sufficiently. Said Chester, 'Let us take a walk and make inquiries as we go,' and so they started, and whenever they came across a native Lawrence got him into conversation and asked him about his village, his age, his trade or profession, and many other details. At length they came to a man fishing lazily in a tank, and Lawrence commenced his cross-examination, but the answers were very short and grumpy. When at length came the question of his trade or profession the man drew himself up proudly and replied curtly, 'I am the courtesans' fiddler.' Lawrence turned away in disgust, using strong language about the man's immorality, but Chester took up his defence. 'Well,' he said, 'he is as proud of his profession as you are of yours, and you must remember that in India the profession of a courtesan is a most respectable one, and their fiddler shares in the honour.'

Sir Christopher Cole, K.C.B., M.P., is named in our original prospectus, and at different times we have had as members John Cotton, a director of the East India Company ; Major-General Sir Neville B. Chamberlain, K.C.B., elected in 1865 ; Sir John Cox, Bart. ; Sir Thomas Dallas, K.C.B. ;



Sir C. Deacon, K.C.B.; and Sir John D. Doveton, C.B. Lieut.-Colonel Walter Coningsby Erskine, C.B. (1810-1872), served during the mutiny and received the thanks of both Houses of Parliament. He became in 1866 twelfth Earl of Kellie and fifteenth Baron Erskine, and his son successfully claimed the earldom of Mar.

Neil Benjamin Edmoustone was a well-known Bengal civilian in the early part of the last century, and was a Secretary of State to the Indian Government. He was an original member. So also was Sir Charles Forbes, the first Baronet and an M.P., the well-known merchant of Bombay; and his namesake, the Hon. Francis Forbes, Chief Justice of New South Wales, who joined the Club in 1836, was our first Colonial member.

Major-General Frederick Gaitskell, C.B., an officer of the Bengal Artillery, joined the Club at a very early age, and only died in 1901, at the advanced age of ninety-four.

In 'The Thackerays in India' we find this passage: 'When the versatile Stoequeler bought the "John Bull" and turned it into "The Englishman," three barristers—John Peter Grant, of an ancient Scottish family, John Farley Leith, and Charles Thackeray—were the leader-writers. The first two became famous names in Bengal; Charles Thackeray sank about 1846 into an obscure grave.' All of these three barristers were members of the Club, and John F. Leith became a Q.C. and M.P. for Aberdeen, and was the leader at the English Bar in all Indian litigation. Charles Thackeray was an uncle of the novelist, and became a member in 1826.

Sir James Weir Hogg (1790-1876) was a barrister-at-law, who went out to Calcutta, where he practised with great

success, and eventually became Administrator-General of Bengal. In 1834 he was elected an M.P. and a director of the Honourable East India Company, and was twice chairman of the Court. Subsequently he became a member of the India Council, and was created a baronet in 1846.

His son, who succeeded him, was elevated to the peerage, and the present Baron Magheramorne is his grandson. We still number descendants of this well-known Indian family amongst our members.

Under the initial letter 'H' we count Major-General Robert Haldane, C.B., of the 26th Bengal Native Infantry, who did good service in the Sutlej campaign; Sir Graves Shawney Haughton, F.R.S.; Sir Thomas Pelham Hayes, and several others. And in more modern times we had Sir Thomas Henry, the Chief Metropolitan Police Magistrate. Henry George Keene, C.I.E., of the B.C.S., Commissioner at Agra and Allahabad, and the well-known author of many Indian historical works, was elected in 1862. Lieut.-Colonel Henry Horatio Kitchener was also a member; he was the father of Lord Kitchener of Khartoum, formerly Sirdar of the Egyptian Army, and now Commander-in-Chief of the Forces in South Africa.

Next in order on our list I find the names of Rear-Admiral Lambert as an original member, and of two of the celebrated brothers 'Lawrence'—General Sir George St. Patrick, a distinguished Bengal Cavalry officer, and Sir John Laird Mair (Lord Lawrence), G.C.B., &c. Sir George, who was the elder brother, was a very active member of the Club, and was elected Chairman on more than one occasion. They are followed by Sir D. Leighton, K.C.B., Sir J. C. Lushington, K.C.B., and Lieut.-Colonel Thomas Lumsden, C.B.

This last name reminds me that we have at the present time another very distinguished 'Lumsden' on our books. I refer to Lieut.-Colonel Dugald M. Lumsden, C.B., lately commanding Lumsden's Horse in the South African campaign. Colonel Lumsden was a very successful proprietor of tea-gardens in Assam, and appears to have combined a love of military employment with his business energy, for before entering on active service he had already commanded the Assam Valley Light Horse. He was in Sydney in December 1899, when bad news was being sent only too plentifully from the field of battle, and he wired to Calcutta offering his services to the Government of India in any capacity, and Rs. 50,000 towards raising a mounted infantry contingent for service in South Africa.

That generous offer was accepted, and no fewer than 900 applications for service were received from Volunteers in all parts of India. Ultimately 250 men were enlisted from local corps of Assam, Surma Valley, Behar, Punjab, Mysore, and Rangoon, and the public subscribed, in cash and kind, some Rs. 327,000 to meet the expense of the expedition.

The Viceroy, Lord Curzon of Kedleston, consented to become Honorary Colonel of the Corps, and the ladies of Calcutta gave them a send-off ball.

Lumsden's Horse took part in many engagements immediately under the eye of Lord Roberts, who on Colonel Lumsden's recommendation gave about thirty commissions in Her Majesty's Army to members of the corps who had displayed remarkable intelligence and courage. In their first engagement they lost the second in command, Colonel Showers, of the Surma Valley Horse; but, considering the

work they performed, their losses were inconsiderable. The corps arrived in Bombay, on its return, in January 1901, and some time afterwards the Colonel and several officers came back to this country. On May 25 of the present year a large number of members of the Club joined in inviting Colonel Lumsden and his companions to a dinner, given in their honour in the members' coffee-room, at which Mr. G. H. Batten, late of the Bengal Civil Service and Chairman of Committee, presided. Such an event is very rare in our history. In addition to the festivals that I have already mentioned in honour of Lord Metcalfe, Ibrahim Pasha, and others, the members gave a dinner, in 1862, to Ismail Pasha, when he visited England, and on July 27, 1868, to Sir Robert (Lord) Napier of Magdala; and I believe that that was the last occasion on which the Club's hospitality was offered to a distinguished guest.

The late John Powys, fourth Baron Lilford, a distinguished naturalist, and an ornithologist especially, was a member of the Club, and resided for some time in Tenterden Street, in the immediate neighbourhood, while preparing for publication the result of his elaborate studies. His brother, the Hon. and Rev. Edward V. R. Powys, M.A., is still one of our members, as is also the present Baron Lilford. I have not been able to trace the immediate connection of the present family with India, but I believe that the first baron married a relative of the Marquess Cornwallis, who is now represented through a female branch by Charles Cornwallis Neville, fifth Baron Braybrooke.

We have had several nonagenarians in the Club. I have already mentioned General Gaitskell. Sir Robert Alexander,

Bart., withdrew his name in 1858, being upwards of ninety years of age ; and there is something pathetic in the fact that a gallant veteran like Sir James Caldwell, G.C.B., has to inform the Committee that he is deprived of his sight, and must therefore resign his membership ; but a centenarian is a rarity in the annals of human life, and must be almost unique in those of club history.

Mr. James Macauley was born in Ireland on November 11, 1800, and died in London, at No. 3 Tenterden Street, immediately opposite to the Club entrance, on March 11, 1901. I remember in the days of my youth a long controversy in 'The Times' on the question of people living to the age of 100 years and upwards, and many cases were quoted, but I believe that it was finally decided that not one of them was properly authenticated ; in fact, it was asserted that no one in modern times ever became a centenarian.

In later life I have seen and conversed with Mr. Macauley, whose age, according to 'The Irish Law Times' and 'Solicitors' Journal,' is ascertained, beyond all question, by the fact that it is stated in his *memorial* on entering King's Inn. He was a short slight figure, with long hair tinged with grey, and a long beard. He was very deaf, but his eyesight was good, and he was constantly writing, making, as was supposed, numerous wills. His breathing was laborious, and the exertion of mounting the staircase to the smoking-room was painful to himself and to those who witnessed it ; for he still smoked after he was a hundred years old, was fond of his champagne, and was a chivalrous squire of ladies. He was called to the Irish Bar in 1824 and to the English Bar in 1835, but he never practised at either. He passed many years of his life



in Italy, and was in that country during the momentous insurrection of Garibaldi, of which he was an eye-witness of many thrilling scenes. A mutual friend, with whom Mr. Macauley dined on the anniversary of his 100th birthday and again on New Year's Day 1901, has described him as a most amiable and charitable gentleman, of distinguished and courtly manners, of a jocular and happy nature, and possessing a kindly wit.

He was extremely well read, and was a great authority on the plays of Shakespeare. His home was at Brighton, but he was well known at Harrogate, where he took the waters every year. We always supposed him to be unmarried, but it is stated that after his death a wife appeared, from whom he had been separated fifty years. He joined the Club in 1888, but I cannot say that he had any connection with the East, further than that I once met his nephew, a Colonel Macauley, of the Madras service.

Æneas Mackintosh, of Balnespeck, was not a member of the Indian service, but he made his fortune as an indigo-planter, and owned some 10,000 acres in Inverness. He had a great reputation as a tiger shikaree. He died in 1893.

Sir F. Macnaghten was Chief Justice of Calcutta; the Right Hon. Holt Mackenzie, one of our most efficient chairmen, was a Bengal civilian and Secretary to Government in the Territorial Department during the administration of the Marquess of Hastings; the three Malcolms, Sir Pulteney, Sir John, and Sir Charles, I have mentioned elsewhere, and I should add that a younger brother, David, was also a member. Sir James Ranald Martin was a surgeon on the Bengal Establishment, who became well known in his later days to



all officers of the Company's service from being the chief medical examiner in London. He wrote a book, a copy of which is in the library, entitled 'The Effects of Tropical Climates on the Constitution of Europeans,' probably one of the earliest works published on the subject; and in addition he had a stock story of his medical experience during the first Burmese war. That was in the days of the old 'Brown Bess,' when rank and file used to carry, in addition to a supply of extra flints, a small bottle of oil to case the lock of the musket.

The troops suffered grievously during the campaign from low intermittent fever; but in those days there was no quinine to reduce or conquer the epidemic. They found, however, a remedy of their own which minimized the evil if it did not cure it. They nipped off with their teeth the end of a paper cartridge, and poured the contents into the palm of the left hand; to this they added a few drops of oil from the flask, and then worked the moistened powder into a large pill, which they swallowed.

The saltpetre and sulphur had the effect of throwing them into a perspiration, and thence was brought about an improved condition of health, if not a complete cure.

Sir Robert Montgomery, K.C.B., joined the Club in 1865, and was, at the time of his death in the present year, the oldest Addiscombe cadet.

I have already mentioned the Earl of Munster, but made no allusion to his Indian career. After serving in the Peninsula, and being severely wounded in a cavalry charge at Toulouse, he went out to India in 1815 as A.D.C. to the Marquess of Hastings, and at the conclusion of the war

with Scindiah he was entrusted with the then dangerous duty of bringing home the overland despatches. This he fulfilled successfully, and in 1819 he published a work entitled 'My Overland Tour.' He is said to have been a man of great intelligence and of a most kindly but sensitive nature. In the beginning of 1842 it was found that his mind was giving way, and in March of that year, when accidentally left alone, he took his own life.

St. George Mivart, F.R.S., Ph.D., M.D., the distinguished author and controversialist, joined the Club in 1875, and was a constant visitor there up to the time of his death in 1900.

Lord Metcalfe left no direct heir, and was succeeded in the baronetcy by his brother Sir Thomas Theophilus, fourth Baronet, who was in the Indian Civil Service and agent to the Governor-General at the Court of Delhi. He was a member of the Club, and on his death in 1853 his son, Sir Theophilus John, succeeded to the title and also became a member. Colonel Metcalfe, the only son of Sir Charles, was a very active member of the Club and frequently on the Committee.

Sir Charles Metcalfe Ochterlony, second Baronet, nephew and successor by special remainder of the distinguished general officer whose portrait hangs upon our walls, was a member of the Bengal Civil Service, and joined the Club in 1830.

Sir Richard Charles Oldfield, of the same service, and late Puisne Judge of the High Court, North-West Provinces, is, I am happy to say, a living member of the Club, as was his father before him. In the first decade of his Indian career he had a very rough but noble experience of active military service. He was at Agra when the mutiny broke out, and, as a Volunteer, he took part in the heroic

charge of Major Prendergast's Horse, consisting of twenty sabres, upon the rebel cavalry, 300 in number.

Of that gallant and victorious little band, five were killed and nine wounded; amongst the latter being Oldfield, who was shot through the chest at close quarters. From that dangerous wound Sir Richard has recovered, but only last year he received another very severe blow when it was announced that his son, Major Henry Elliot Oldfield, commanding the 38th Battery, R.F.A., had been killed in action at Lindley, South Africa, on July 3.

Laurence Oliphant, of Condie and Newton, Perthshire, and M.P. for Perth, who was born in 1791 and joined the Club in 1830, was elder brother of Anthony Oliphant, His Majesty's Attorney-General at the Cape of Good Hope and Chief Justice of Ceylon, whose only son was Laurence Oliphant, the novelist and mystic.

Sir Francis Boyd Outram, Bart., formerly of the Bengal Civil Service, who succeeded his gallant father in 1863, had a somewhat similar experience during the mutiny to that of Sir Richard Oldfield. He was at Allygurh when the insurrection commenced, trying to hold the district with a handful of Volunteers, but was forced to take refuge in Agra, and on the day following his entrance into that city he was present and badly wounded at the battle of Shahgunj. He has resigned his membership of the Club, but is still residing at his place near Pitlochry.

Major-General Sir Patrick Ross was a Company's officer who was present at the capture of Seringapatam and was an original member of the Club. Sir Edward Ryan was elected in 1841, and was formerly Chief Justice at Calcutta.

I have already mentioned our original members, Mr. Thomas Snodgrass and Sir George T. Staunton, Bart., M.P., and shortly after their names there appear on our rolls those of Lieutenant-General Sir Lionel Smith, K.C.B., and of several Stracheys.

Sir Lionel Smith was Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Jamaica, and married Isabella Curwen, daughter of Eldred Curwen Pottinger, Esq., of Mount Pottinger, and it was probably through this connection that he joined the Club in 1835.

The Strachey family has been connected from time immemorial with India.

Sir Henry, the first Baronet (1736-1810), was Private Secretary to Lord Clive, and for some time Master of the Household to George III.; the second Baronet was also Sir Henry, son of the former, and was born in 1772, and died in 1858, and he was succeeded by his nephew, the present Sir Edward Strachey, a grandson of the first Baronet, whose brother, Sir John Strachey, G.C.S.I., acted as Viceroy after the assassination of Lord Mayo, and became Secretary of State for India; and another brother, Lieutenant-General Sir Richard Strachey, G.C.S.I., of the Bengal Engineers, served throughout the Sutlej campaign, and was a Member of Council of the Secretary of State for India. Sir Richard was a member of the Club, and so also was Sir Henry, the second Baronet, and contemporary with this latter was Mr. Richard Strachey, who accompanied Sir John Malcolm to Persia, and who presented the Club with a portrait of the King of Oudh.

The names of three members of the family are still on our rolls.

Mr. Patrick Boyle Smollett, M.P., went out to India as a writer on the Madras Establishment in 1825, and, after holding several important positions, retired from the service in 1859 and took an active part in politics. He has left a reputation in the Club of having been a happy jovial gentleman, whose witty sayings gave great pleasure and amusement.

Sir Richard Temple, Bart., G.C.S.I., is no longer a member of the Club, but he was elected in 1857. He had a very distinguished career in the Indian Civil Service, having been resident at Hyderabad, Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, and Governor of Bombay.

Sir Archdale Wilson, Bart., of Delhi, G.C.B., was a member whose name constantly appears on the records of the Club for many years prior to his decease in 1874, for the reports of his departure for India, or of his return from that country, are very frequent. He left no male heir, but by special remainder his nephew, Sir Roland Knyvet Wilson, succeeded to the baronetcy. This gentleman is a barrister-at-law, and was for some time Reader in Indian Law at Cambridge University.

Sir Samuel Young (1766–1826) was for a brief time one of our members. He went out to the Madras Civil Service in 1781, and retired in 1808. He was created a baronet in 1813.

Sir William Young, of Baillieborough, was an original member and a director of the East India Company. He was created a baronet in 1821 and died in 1848. His grandson, Sir William Muston Need Young, third and present Baronet, was Superintendent in the Indian Telegraph Department and served in the Afghan war, 1878.

Colonel W. Siddons Young, of the Bengal Staff Corps, after



upwards of thirty years' membership, has recently retired from the Club. His loss is greatly deplored, for he was not only a well-read and instructive associate, but he was also a most generous donor of books to the library.

Lastly, I must mention the late Sir George Udny Yule, C.B., K.C.S.I., and his brother, Colonel Sir Henry Yule, R.E., the erudite author of 'The Book of Ser Marco Polo,' and the clever and ingenious compiler of 'Hobson-Jobson,' a glossary of Anglo-Indian words and phrases. Their father, Lieut.-Colonel Yule, was one of our original members.

The report of a sub-Committee, submitted in 1869, commences with the words 'The Club being no longer purely Oriental,' which, without doubt, is a truthful assertion, and yet I think it will be found that its connection with the East and with the past is still very strictly maintained.

I have already pointed out how and when the military element separated itself from us, and since the abolition of the East India Company we have received very few new members from the existing Indian Civil Service. That, however, is easily accounted for. There is no longer one great centre of study, as in the old days of Haileybury, and, consequently, there no longer exists that close union and adhesion which formerly tied together in after life friends who in their youth had lived and worked side by side. Indian civilians nowadays are drawn from the Universities, and on their retirement they seek admission into the University Clubs.

But our present members are drawn from the same families who formerly sent their sons to India as cadets and writers. A considerable and valuable element which we now



possess from the Colonies of Australia is composed of that same class of gentlemen who would have entered the military or civil service of India had not the power of directors of the old Company of nominating cadets and writers been curtailed, and had they not been forced to seek a new field for their abilities and intelligence, which they found in Australia. They come from the same parts of Great Britain and Ireland which in old days chiefly furnished young aspirants for work in India, and their fathers and many of their relatives have been or still are connected with that empire. Looking the other day over a long list of candidates for membership, I noticed that only one held an Indian official appointment, but that almost every one of the remainder was connected with India either as a banker, a merchant, a planter, or in some other capacity. At the present moment our list contains the names of gentlemen who have held or are holding high official positions in our Eastern dependencies and at the Council Board of the Secretary of State for India. It would not be becoming to mention them by name, but I have already spoken of Colonel Lumsden, a member who did such gallant service in South Africa; and we have another, a public servant, Sir Ernest Mason Satow, K.C.M.G., who has performed diplomatic duties in the River Plate, in Morocco, in Siam, and in Japan, and who is now the representative of His Majesty at Peking.

The reference to China reminds me that for many years the name of an envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary of His Majesty the Emperor was borne upon our rolls as an honorary member.

As time went on he had several successors at the Court

of St. James's, but still his name appeared in all the reprints of our list.

At length it occurred to someone to make inquiry at the Chinese Embassy whether this distinguished diplomatist was still in existence.

The answer was by no means precise ; but the officials opined that the Minister referred to had been decapitated many years ago, on his return to China from his European mission. Under these circumstances the name of our honorary associate has recently been eliminated.

## CHAPTER VIII

## OUR PORTRAITS

Our pictures are not numerous, but, generally speaking, they are high-class, and copies have been made of several of them for public buildings and institutions in India, in which country the originals of our portraits passed the greater portion of their careers.

These portraits, thirty in number, are chiefly of military men, and it is both interesting and instructive to notice the changes that have been made in the habiliments of officers during the period that has elapsed since the first and the last of our series were portrayed.

Stringer Lawrence belonged to an age when the use of protective armour had not yet been abandoned, and in the half-length portrait of him by Sir Joshua Reynolds, now at the India Office, he is depicted as wearing a breast-plate of burnished steel under a plain red shell jacket.

In our picture, Lawrence's uniform is more gorgeous than that of any other officer in our collection, and one might almost apply to it the description given in former times of the full dress of the old Bengal Horse Artillery, as being of 'gold with cloth facings.'

Sir Eyre Coote, Lord Clive, the Marquess of Hastings, and one or two others more or less the contemporaries of

Lawrence, all wear the same Staff uniform of scarlet and blue, but less elaborately embroidered, and their long buff waist-coats are fully displayed; but, by degrees, the skirts of their coats are made narrower, and the coats are buttoned down the front, and trousers take the place of boots and breeches. Nevertheless, for many years a certain amount of comfort is permitted in the style of uniform. The lapels of the coat are thrown open, the neck is free and unrestrained except by an ordinary cravat; the epaulets are small and of loose bullion, but rich and handsome, and the whole dress has the appearance of that of a gentleman who likes his comfort, but who wears a special style of clothing to show that he is a military man in the service of the King or of the Honourable East India Company.

In the Wellingtonian period, when the Great Duke commanded in chief, the stiff leather stock takes the place of the lace cravat; the coat is buttoned to the throat tightly across the breast, and the heavy epaulets square the shoulders, and give the wearer an appearance very similar to that of Noah and his companions in the toy arks of our childhood.

There is only one portrait of an officer in the modern uniform of a tunic without epaulets, and that is of the late Sir James Outram, and his picture recalls another great change that has been made in the Army Regulations during the last fifty years. Outram is bearded like a Turk, and Lord Gough wears a moustache and whiskers, but almost every other hero who is represented in our gallery is clean-shaven.

The list of donors and of artists of the portraits that we

possess is very incomplete, but a careful study of our records has enabled me to correct several errors, and to contribute some further information as to when and whence we acquired them ; but that study has also satisfied me that in one or two instances we have been very unjustly treated, and that other collectors have usurped a title to the originality of portraits that unquestionably belongs to us.

To answer this serious charge I summon His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for India, in representation of the defunct Honourable East India Company, a Viceroy and Governor-General, the gallant Military Secretary of that Viceroy, and the artist who perpetrated the deed.

In a very interesting work, entitled ' Descriptive List of Pictures at Government House, Calcutta,' prepared by order of His Excellency the Earl of Elgin and Kincardine, Viceroy and Governor-General, and compiled by Colonel A. Durand, C.B., C.I.E., Military Secretary, 1894-1898, reference is made to two portraits numbered in the catalogue 25 and 30 respectively.

The former of these pictures is described most accurately as follows :

' 25. CHARLES THEOPHILUS, BARON METCALFE. Born 1785 ; died 1846 ; Governor-General of India, March 20, 1835, to March 4, 1836.

' When Lord William Bentinck resigned, Sir Charles Metcalfe exercised the functions of Governor-General of India until the arrival of Lord Auckland from England. He received a peerage on his return, and died at Fern Hill, September 1846. A full-length figure the size of life, in a black frock-coat and trousers, with the star of the Order of

the Bath, seated to the left at a table covered with a Turkey carpet, having papers and a despatch-box on it. His right hand holds an open letter, and his left, with fingers bent upon the hip, is cleverly foreshortened. He wears a white cravat, and his ruddy face is seen turned in three-quarters to the left, the deep blue eyes fixed on the spectator. The hair is dark brown, and the face smooth-shaven. A rich crimson curtain hangs behind, and the back of his gilt arm-chair is stuffed with green. Light is admitted from the right-hand side.

‘Signed with the artist’s name along the yellow edge of a book lying on the floor, “Hayes of Berners Street.” Size, 7’ 10 $\frac{1}{4}$ ”  $\times$  4’ 10 $\frac{1}{4}$ ”.

‘A copy of this picture by F. Say is in the Oriental Club, London, where also is an engraving, probably by William Say, whereon the painter’s name is given, “F. Say.”—Scharf.’

‘Scharf,’ who signs the above description, was the late Sir George Scharf, K.C.B., Curator of the National Gallery, and naturally regarded as a most eminent authority on the genuineness of pictures; but before I venture to pass any comments on his remarks I propose to transcribe the description of the second portrait, No. 30, as set forth in the catalogue already referred to :

‘30. MARQUESS OF HASTINGS. Born 1754; died 1826; Governor-General of Fort William in Bengal; also Commander-in-Chief, 1813–1823.

‘A full-length figure, the size of life, standing bare-headed. In his left hand he carries a sword, while his right hand, which is partly extended, clasps a roll of paper. On a table placed on the right are some maps, papers, and books, behind which his plumed helmet is seen. He wears a uniform composed





*The Marquess of Hastings, V.C.*



of a scarlet coat, white breeches, and high boots, wears the ribbon and star of the Garter, and the badge of the Order of the Bath round his neck. In the background are seen the base and part of the shaft of a column on the left, and in the centre and to the right two statues are shown in their niches. Painted by J. Hayes. Size, 7' 9" x 4' 9".'

I have given at full length the above descriptions of two portraits which are now in the Council Chamber at Government House, Calcutta, because they equally apply to two of the same noblemen which are in our Club, and which, in our innocence, we presumed to be originals.

Our portrait of the Marquess of Hastings was presented by the late Sir Charles Forbes, Bart., one of our original members, in May 1836, and was painted by Samuel Lane,<sup>1</sup> who was born in 1780 and died in 1859. He suffered from great infirmities, having been deaf, and almost dumb, from childhood, but he was a pupil of Farington and of Sir Thomas Lawrence, and had a large practice on account of the recognized fidelity of his likenesses.

The picture in our collection of Lord Metcalfe was acquired by a subscription of members of the Club, and was painted in 1843 by F. R. Say. In Kaye's 'Life of Lord Metcalfe' mention is made of the occasion on which it was decided to paint this portrait, and there is a further mention of the presentation of an address to our distinguished member at a meeting in the Club, over which Lord Auckland presided, on January 12, 1846, shortly before Lord Metcalfe's death.

In a minute by the Governor-General of India, the Marquess of Dalhousie, dated February 15, 1856, his lordship

<sup>1</sup> It is signed 'Sam Lane.'

calls attention to the poor array of the portraits of public men which the walls of the Council Chamber display, and especially mentions that 'half an acre is covered by a likeness of Mr. John Adam; but Lord Hastings is thrust away over a doorway in Kit-Cat, and not a square inch of canvas has been allotted to Sir Charles Metcalfe or to Lord William Bentinck;' and he adds that this is a great deficiency, and that it ought to be repaired by placing the portraits of every Governor-General on the walls.

On receipt of this dispatch the Government of India took up the question at once, and suggested to the Court of Directors that the pictures wanted should be supplied. The latter agreed to the proposal, and on May 25, 1857, the Secretary to the Chairman of the Honourable East India Company writes to the Chairman of the Oriental Club requesting that the Committee will kindly permit *copies to be taken for the Council Chamber in Calcutta, of the portraits of Lords Hastings and Metcalfe* in possession of the Club.

This permission is granted, and every assistance is to be afforded to Mr. J. Hayes in making the copies.

John Hayes, portrait painter, was born in 1786, began to exhibit at the Royal Academy in 1820, and died in 1866.

The rule 'De mortuis' therefore applies to him, but I cannot refrain from saying that he committed an unfriendly act towards a brother artist when he copied an original portrait by Mr. Say and put his own name upon it in a conspicuous place. The same rule applies to Sir George Scharf, who died in 1895, and therefore I will only mention that the portrait of Lord Metcalfe was sent home, with other pictures, in 1885, to be cleaned, and that this work was executed

by Messrs. Haynes, under the direction and supervision of Sir George (then Mr.) Scharf, who returned it with the description in the catalogue that I have already transcribed.

Mr. Scharf was therefore clearly aware of the existence of our portrait, and it is certainly very extraordinary that, with his vast experience, he should have been led into making the misstatement that our picture is a copy of one by 'Hayes, of Berners Street!'

But what is to be said of the Court of Directors, and of their successor, the Secretary of State for India, who asked permission to copy the portraits of Lords Hastings and Metcalfe, who invoiced them out to Government House, and who yet apparently offered no explanation as to the sources whence these copies were derived? And what is to be said of the Military Secretary, who, by Viceregal order, compiles the catalogue, and yet, with all the correspondence and records of the old Company at his command, does not take the trouble to verify his statements?

The Club has the honour to number amongst its members more than one of those distinguished gentlemen who form the Council of H.M. Principal Secretary of State for India, and if his lordship will appoint them a court of inquiry they can verify or refute my statements. In the former case, I trust that his lordship will do us the justice to acknowledge the error that has been committed.

Colonel Durand has a very pleasant pen, and his introduction to the catalogue of pictures at Government House, Calcutta, is most interesting. That introduction leads me to conclude that he adopted a Report of the Public Works Department as the basis of his descriptive list, and I venture

to point out that on a revision of that list several of the pictures ascribed to Mr. J. Hayes will be found to be simply copies of original portraits now in England.

Before I leave the subject of the painting of Lord Metcalfe, I should mention that several copies of it have been made, two of which were destined for India, in addition to that in the Council Chamber of Government House. In 1847 a copy was made by Stonehouse, the artist, at the request of the Rev. Thos. J. Smyth. Two copies were made in 1852 and 1867 respectively, by desire of Colonel Metcalfe, C.B., one of them by Mr. Koteswein, and the other for the Town Hall of Calcutta, but the artist's name is not mentioned, and a fourth by Mr. J. R. Dicksee, of Howland Street, was painted in 1864 for the Delhi Institute on commission.

I fear that I have dwelt at too great a length on two of our portraits, and I must still advert to our other pictures; but I will do so as briefly as possible and in alphabetical order. The first of the series is that of

BARNEWALL, ROBERT, Lieut.-Colonel of the Bombay Army, painted by Robert Home, and presented to the Club in 1850 by Messrs. Warden and Williamson Ramsay, two of our members. It is the portrait of a gentleman in mufti, apparently about forty years of age, and, as Lord Dalhousie said of the picture of Lord Hastings, it is thrust away over a doorway in Kit-Cat.<sup>1</sup> Regarding this gallant officer, I am only able to state that he joined the 5th Bombay Native Infantry in 1803, became major in 1826, lieut.-colonel in 1830, retired

<sup>1</sup> Kit-Cat is the name given to the style of three-quarter length portraits on canvas, 29 inches by 36, adopted by Sir Godfrey Kneller in painting likenesses of the members of a club called the 'Kit-Cat,' after their cook, Christopher Cat.



in 1833, and died in 1848. Barnewall is the family name of the ancient Irish Barony of Trimlestown.

Robert Home, who, as I have stated, painted this portrait, was a well-known Indian artist, of whom an account furnished by Mr. Pringle, Director of the Imperial Record Department, is printed in the catalogue of portraits at Calcutta, of which I have already made so much use. Therein it is stated that at an early age he went to India, and first settled in Lucknow, where he was appointed Historical Painter to the King of Oudh. As I shall have occasion to refer again to Mr. Home, of whose artistic powers we have in our collection several other exemplars, I will at once give a memorandum regarding him that I have had in my possession for many years. I am inclined to question the statement of Mr. Pringle that on Home's arrival in India he settled at Lucknow. His only daughter, Mrs. Walker, whom I have had the pleasure of meeting in times gone by, used to say that the position which her father obtained, of Historical Painter to the Nawab of Oudh, with a salary of 2,000*l.* per annum, was due to the influence of Colonel John Baillie, one of our founders, who was Resident at Lucknow between 1807 and 1815, and whose portrait, painted by Home, I have now in my possession.

Moreover, the portrait of Major-General Sir Arthur Wellesley, K.B., in Government House, Calcutta, was painted by Home in 1804; and one of the Marquess Wellesley by the same artist, in our possession, was produced in 1805. My impression, therefore, is that for some years after reaching India he practised his profession in Calcutta before proceeding to Lucknow. I think, too, that he remained longer in the latter city than is generally supposed, and was

certainly there after my relative, Colonel Baillie, resigned his appointment of Resident in 1815, for he painted the portraits of more than one of his successors; and he also painted the large picture of 'The King of Oudh Receiving Tribute,' now at Hampton Court, which must have been after 1818, for the Nawab, or Wazir, Ghazee-Udeen Khan, of whom we have also a portrait, was only proclaimed king in that year.

I believe that Home left three sons, all of whom entered the Bengal Army, and one of them was killed at Sobraon; and also the daughter whom I have mentioned. They used to pronounce their name 'Hume,' and put forward claims to an earldom with that title.

CARNAC, SIR JAMES RIVETT, Bart. A full-length portrait, by H. W. Pickersgill, acquired for the Club by a subscription of members. Sir James is portrayed in full uniform, consisting of a blue double-breasted tail-coat, with heavy gold epaulets, and a gold aiguillette fixed into the button-hole on the right side of the figure, black trousers, with broad gold stripes. He wears what appears to be a general's sash, with heavy gold tassels, and a gold sword-belt and sword with black scabbard. His right hand rests on the peak of his cocked hat, which is placed upon a table. The style of uniform is much more naval than military, and is probably diplomatic, and that which he was accustomed to wear while Governor of Bombay; but some critics consider it to be the uniform of a lord- or deputy-lieutenant. His face is turned slightly to the left of the spectator, and is that of a fair man clean-shaven. He wears his own hair of brown tinged with grey.

James Rivett, who afterwards assumed the name of





*Lord Olive.*

Carnac, having been a grand-nephew of the famous General, Clive's second in command, was born in 1785, and joined the Indian Army as an officer of Madras Native Infantry, retiring with the rank of major in 1822. In 1827 he was elected a Director of the Honourable East India Company, and became Chairman of the Court in 1836, when a baronetcy was conferred upon him. In 1838 he was appointed Governor of Bombay, but remained there less than two years. He was a member of our Club, and died in 1846. There is a bust of him by Chantrey in the Town Hall, Bombay.

Mr. Henry William Pickersgill, who painted this portrait and several others in our collection, was an artist of some eminence. He was born in London in 1782, elected a full member of the Royal Academy in 1826, and retired from the active practice of his profession in 1872. It is stated that from time to time he exhibited at the Academy upwards of 350 pictures, most of them being portraits of celebrities. He died in 1875.

CLIVE, ROBERT, BARON CLIVE, of Plassey. Born September 29, 1725 ; died November 22, 1774.

This portrait, by Nathaniel Dance, was presented to us in 1834 by Edward, second Baron Clive and first Earl of Powis of the third creation of that title, who was a member of the Club. Size, 4' 2" × 3' 4".

The figure, the size of life, is three-quarters length, and is in Staff uniform of scarlet with blue facings, and braided down the front. There is a small loose bullion epaulet on the right shoulder, and the ribbon of the Bath crosses a long buff single-breasted waistcoat with large pockets. He wears a cambric cravat, and ruffles on the sleeves. The breeches are

buff. On the right arm, which is bent, with the hand resting on the hip, are four embroidered stripes, and the left hand rests on his sword-hilt. His bronzed, worn face looks to the right of the spectator, and is clean-shaven. He wears a grey wig and queue. On the right of the portrait are two guns, and on the left a group of natives in full retreat. The light enters on the left of the picture half way down.

The great Lord Clive was the son of Richard Clive of Stryche, M.P. for Montgomeryshire, and of Rebecca, daughter of Nathaniel Gaskell, of Manchester.

He joined the Company's Civil Service in 1744, but soon became a soldier, as indeed most Europeans in India had to do in those days, and was present at the siege of Pondicherry, and at the assault of Devi Cottah, where he led the forlorn hope. After the atrocity of the Black Hole at Calcutta he took that city by storm, and not long afterwards defeated the perpetrator of the infamy, Suraj-ud-Dowla, at the celebrated battle of Plassey (1757), and expelled him from the throne. In addition to the peerage conferred upon him, and to the presents and honours that the Court of Directors offered to him, he received a signal mark of Royal favour in being raised to the rank of lieutenant-colonel in the King's Army, a distinction very rarely bestowed upon a Company's officer. He appears to have been, even in his youth, of an impetuous, high-strung, nervous character, and somewhat pugnacious, and the attacks made upon him in the House of Commons on account of the vast wealth that he had accumulated, unhinged his mind, and he took his own life in Berkeley Square on November 22, 1774.

Nathaniel Dance, the artist of this portrait, rose in later



life to wealth and honours, and became known to the world as Sir Nathaniel Dance Holland, Bart. He was born in 1734, a son of that Mr. George Dance, architect, who designed the Mansion House, in the City of London. He studied in Italy and other parts of the Continent for some years, and is stated to have been greatly enamoured of Miss Angelica Kauffmann; but eventually he married a rich widow, and became Member of Parliament for East Grinstead. He was created a baronet in 1800, and died suddenly in 1811. There is another portrait of Lord Clive by this same artist in Government House, Calcutta, and a third was exhibited at South Kensington in 1867. From the description of this last portrait, I am very much inclined to think that it was our own picture, although I cannot find any record in our minutes of its having been lent in that year; and it is quite possible that it was one, also by Dance, which was purchased by the Trustees of the National Portrait Gallery in 1858, for they are all similar in size and design, though varied in attitude.

In 1851 Sir John Doveton, Chairman of the United Service Club, applied to our Committee for permission to make a copy of this portrait, which was at once granted. It was engraved by F. Bartolozzi, R.A., Historical Engraver to His Majesty, and we possess a copy, dated 1788.

CLOSE, SIR BARRY, Major-General. This three-quarter-length portrait is a copy by an artist named Moore of the original painting in the possession of Lieut.-Col. Vere Henry Close, one of our present members, but he is unable to state by whom his picture was painted. Sir Barry is depicted in full uniform of scarlet with blue facings, but the coat is buttoned up, and the skirts are narrower. Staff aiguillettes fall from the

right shoulder and the fingers of the right hand are inserted between the buttons of the coat, while the left hand grasps his sword-hilt. His full bronzed face is turned slightly to his left, and he wears a black stock and a grey wig.

He was born in 1756, the second son of Maxwell Close, of Drumbanagher and Elm Park, county Armagh, and was appointed a cadet of infantry on the Madras Establishment in 1771. He served at Tellicherry when it was besieged by Hyder Ali, and was present at the first siege of Seringapatam as Deputy Adjutant-General. At the final siege and capture in 1799, he was Adjutant-General, and was thanked for his services by the Commander-in-Chief, and presented with a sword of honour by the Court of Directors. He was the first British resident at Mysore (1799) and afterwards at Poonah, and was created a baronet in 1812, but died in April of the following year.

He was an accomplished scholar in Arabic and Persian, and Mountstuart Elphinstone passed a very high eulogium on his personal character and lofty principles.

The portrait was presented to the Club by Colonel Robert Close, nephew of Sir Barry, an original member, and a copy of it was made in 1862 for the Rajah of Mysore.

COMPTON, SIR HERBERT ABINGDON DRAPER, Knight. This is a life-sized portrait of his Honour seated in a gilded arm-chair upholstered in red. He is in his crimson robes of office with ermine facings, black silk stockings on his crossed legs, shoes and buckles. The nearly full face is turned slightly to the spectator's right. He is a handsome man, with good nose and forehead. His whiskers are very small, but his hair is thick and grey. On his left is a table covered with a green cloth with

gold fringe, on which are placed two closed books and one open. He holds a letter in his left hand.

Sir Herbert Compton was born in 1776 and was for a short time in military service in India, but at an early age he returned home and studied law. He was called to the Bar at Lincoln's Inn in 1808, and shortly afterwards returned to India, where he became Advocate-General at Madras, and in 1831 Chief Justice of Bombay. He was a member of the Club, and this portrait by Reinagle was presented to us by his daughter, Mrs. Skirrow. He died in 1846.

Ramsay Richard Reinagle, portrait and animal painter, was born in 1775, a son of Philip Reinagle, who was a pupil of Allan Ramsay, Court Painter in the reign of George III. R. R. Reinagle became a Royal Academician in 1823, but in consequence of a serious contravention of the laws of that Society was obliged to resign his diploma. He died in 1862.

COOTE, SIR EYRE, Lieutenant-General, K.B. A three-quarter-length, life size, of a tall spare figure, with small head turned slightly to his left. The face is closely shaven, and the locks of hair on either side of the head are white.

The General's uniform is scarlet with blue facings. He wears small loose bullion epaulets on his shoulders, and there is a row of small buttons on each front of the coat. The waistcoat is white and long with a row of buttons down the front, of which seven are shown, and it is crossed from right to left with the red ribbon of the Bath, from the lower end of which is pendant a badge. The star of the Order is on the left breast. The hilt of his sword appears on the left hip, and in his outstretched left gloved hand he holds a walking-cane. The right hand is also gloved and seems to hold a strap or

twig. The light is admitted on the right of the picture between the shoulder and elbow.

Sir Eyre Coote was sixth son of Sir Charles Henry Coote, of Ballyfin, Queen's County, premier baronet of Ireland, and said to have been the first English settler in that island. He was born in 1726, and died at Madras in 1783. His body was brought to England in the following year and buried in the Church of Rockburne, Hampshire.

Over his remains a tomb was erected on which is an inscription which briefly but clearly sets forth the career of this gallant Indian hero :

‘This monument is erected by the East India Company as a testimonial of the military talents of Lieut.-General Sir Eyre Coote, K.B., Commander-in-Chief of the British forces in India ; who by the success of his arms, in the years 1760 and 1761, expelled the French from the coast of Coromandel ; in 1781 and 1782 he again took the field in the Carnatic in opposition to the united strength of the French and Hyder Ally ; and in several engagements defeated the numerous forces of the latter, but death interrupted his career of glory on April 28, 1783, in the 58th year of his age.’ The Court of Directors further honoured the memory of this distinguished officer by erecting a large and lofty allegorical monument, by Banks, in the west aisle of Westminster Abbey, which bears a similar inscription to that above quoted. It may be added that Coote went out to India in 1754 as a subaltern in the first British regiment ever dispatched to that country, the old 39th, which received in consequence as an addition on its colours the motto ‘*Primus in Indis.*’ The 39th is now the 1st Battalion of the Dorsetshire Regiment.

The portrait of Sir Eyre Coote was sent to the Club by the solicitors to the executors of Mr. Thomas Snodgrass (*q.v.*) shortly after the death of that gentleman in 1835, and they advised the Committee that Mr. Snodgrass had directed it to be painted for the Club, but that it had not been completed until after his decease. The solicitors in their letter do not mention the name of the artist to whom the work had been intrusted, and consequently in the list of our collection of paintings it comes under the heading of 'Artist Unknown.'

We of course recognize that it is only a copy and a copy of comparatively modern date, but the difficulty that I have encountered is in the failure of my efforts to discover of what portrait it is a copy.

There are several of the gallant General in existence, and, strange to say, the artists of all of them are unknown.

I have found an engraving which I think must be of a very early portrait, for it is marked 'Colonel Coote, Aliamet, sculp.,' and has a head well covered with dark hair. The picture in the National Portrait Gallery depicts him 'to the waist, in uniform, face three-quarters to the right,' with iron grey hair, and that in the India Office is a full-length standing figure in uniform and high military boots and spurs. 'The face is resolute, high check-bones, and firm set mouth; the forehead is rather low, and he wears his own grey hair.' This is the description in the 'Catalogue of Paintings, Statues, &c., in the India Office, by Mr. William Foster, B.A.,' to whom I take this opportunity for offering my thanks for his kindness and courtesy in the course of my inquiries. I ought to add that in Mr. Foster's catalogue ample justice is done to the Club, wherever reference is made to our pictures, and that



many of the errors in the 'List of Pictures in Government House, Calcutta,' would never have been committed if Mr. Foster's interesting work, which is of an earlier date, had been previously consulted.

Our portrait is not derived from any of these, and yet it must be a copy of some one existing in this country. I have previously referred to Mr. Snodgrass at some length, and have mentioned that he built a magnificent residence at Rhamba, on the Chilka Lake. In my conception it is highly probable that he adorned his house with any good pictures or portraits that he might have been able to purchase in India, and that among the latter were those of Eyre Coote and of Stringer Lawrence. These he brought with him to England, and presented us with the latter as already stated, but for some reason or other he only gave us a copy of the former. It would be interesting to learn what has become of the original.

CHARLES, MARQUESS CORNWALLIS, K.G. We possess two portraits of this burly smiling old nobleman—viz. the large picture by Mather Brown of 'Lord Cornwallis receiving as hostages the sons of Tippoo Sahib,' which hangs on the walls of the Club staircase, in which he is the central figure; and his three-quarter-length portrait by Samuel Lane (*q.v.*), which was acquired by a subscription of the members.

He is depicted in the usual scarlet uniform with blue facings, and small loose bullion epaulets upon the shoulders. He wears a black stock, with the frills of the shirt front protruding at the top of his white waistcoat, which is crossed from left shoulder to right hip by the blue ribbon of the Garter, at the lower end of which is the 'Lesser George,' and



the star of the Order is on his left breast. The trousers are white and the left hand is gloved and holds the other glove in its grasp. There are ruffles on both wrists and heavy gold tassels hanging by the sword-hilt. On the right of the portrait the City of Seringapatam, with the British flag flying, is seen in the distance, and in the foreground is infantry on the march, with cavalry and elephants.

Charles, second Earl and first Marquess Cornwallis, was born in 1738, and entered the Army after passing through the University of Cambridge. He served in Germany and in the American war, and in 1786 was appointed Governor-General of Fort William, in Bengal, and Commander-in-Chief of the Forces in India.

While holding this dual appointment he invaded Mysore, besieged Seringapatam, and compelled Tippoo Sahib to accept very humiliating terms of peace. He returned to England in 1793, when he was created a marquess, and in 1798 he was appointed Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland during the period of the great rebellion. He was one of the signatories of the treaty of peace of Amiens in 1802, and as Marquess Cornwallis, K.G., reassumed his old appointment in India in July 1805, but he died in October of the same year at Ghazipur, near Benares.

DOWLAT RAO SINDIAH. The small portrait of this Mahratta Prince was presented to the Club in 1836 by Mr. Richard Strachey, one of our members, and a very distinguished Bengal civilian, who was successively resident at Gwalior and at Lucknow.

At the same time he gave us a portrait similar in size of another Indian notability who is styled the King of Ondh,

and in the list of our collection both these portraits are ascribed to the artist, Mr. John Hayes, of whom mention has been already made.

They are portraits from life of two native noblemen in their early manhood.

Dowlat Rao Sindiah succeeded Mahdaji Sindiah, who had adopted him as his son in the year 1794, at the early age of fifteen; and Ghazee-Udeen, eldest son of Saadat Ali Khan, was still a very young man when he succeeded his father, the Wazir of Oudh, in 1814.

Mr. John Hayes was not, however, the artist who painted these portraits, but Mr. Robert Home. Mr. Hayes undoubtedly painted several pictures on Indian subjects, but there is no contention that he was ever in that country, and consequently he could not have limned the Princes from life; but Mr. Home was at the Court of Sindiah in the early part of Mr. Strachey's residentship, which commenced in 1797, and painted a portrait of that gentleman. The picture of the King, or rather the Wazir of Oudh, for he was not installed on the throne until 1818, as has been previously stated, has been engraved, and bears the name of Robert Home as the artist.

There is another portrait similar in size to ours, but differing somewhat in ornamentation, in the possession of Mr. George E. Baillie, whose grandfather, Dr. George Baillie, was Assistant Resident at Lucknow, which is also undoubtedly the work of Robert Home.

ELPHINSTONE, THE RIGHT HON. MOUNTSTUART. A portrait by H. W. Pickersgill (*q.v.*) acquired for the Club by a subscription of members in 1839. It is that of a life-sized

figure seated in a broad armchair upholstered in dark green, and fringed with a lighter shade of the same colour. The face is turned slightly to the left of the spectator, and is that of a fair, good-looking man with aquiline nose and firmly compressed lips. The hair is brown just tinged with grey, and the face is shaven except for slight whiskers under the ears. He is dressed in black frock-coat and trousers, and wears a collar with a white cravat. On the right of the armchair is a table covered with a red cloth on which lies a book, and a portfolio is placed in a leaning position against the left side of the chair. The light is admitted from the left of the picture.

Our minutes record the fact that leave was granted in 1841 to Mr. Richard Strachey, who desired to have a copy made of this portrait for his own use; also that in 1861 it was borrowed by Mr. Noble, the sculptor, to assist him in forming a correct likeness for the statue that he was preparing for erection in St. Paul's Cathedral;<sup>1</sup> and that in the same year it was required by Mr. Farley Leith, Q.C., M.P., for a portrait on which William Behnes, the eminent sculptor, was then engaged.

Moreover, the portrait was engraved by Mr. C. E. Wagstaff, and the loan of our copy of that engraving was applied for in 1865 by Mr. Thomas Woolner, of Welbeck Street, who writes that he is commissioned to execute a bust of Mr. Elphinstone for the Museum of Bombay.

Mountstuart Elphinstone was an original subscriber to the Club at the time of its foundation in 1824, but did not enter

<sup>1</sup> It is stated in the *Guide to St. Paul's* that the Governor-Generalship of India was offered to Elphinstone on three different occasions.

upon his rights and privileges until his return from India in 1827, after upwards of thirty years' diligent service in that country. He was born in 1778, the fourth son of John, eleventh Baron Elphinstone, in the peerage of Scotland. He was not only a scholar and statesman of high repute, but according to a dictum of Colonel Wellesley (Duke of Wellington), whom he met in the early part of his career, he was also 'a born soldier.' He went out to India in 1796, and was attached to the Courts of Berar and of Sindiah until 1808, when he was appointed the first British envoy to Cabul. In 1810 he returned to Poonah, where he remained Political Resident for eight years, at the end of which period he narrowly escaped assassination at the hands of the Peishwa, Bajee Rao, who in consequence of his treachery was ultimately dethroned, and Elphinstone assumed the government of his dominions.

His administration gave the greatest satisfaction not only to his superiors, but to the natives under his authority, and in 1819 he was appointed Governor of Bombay, to which Presidency the greater part of the Peishwa's territory had been annexed. In 1827 he came home, travelling through Upper Egypt, Turkey, and Greece, and on his arrival was offered other appointments of a high and lucrative nature, but he declined them all on account of his health, and settled down to the quiet cultivation of his literary tastes. His 'Account of the Kingdom of Cabul,' published shortly after his return from an unsuccessful mission to that city, was reprinted thirty years later; and of his 'History of India' at least five editions have been produced. He died in 1859, at the age of eighty-one.

GOUGH, FIELD-MARSHAL HUGH, VISCOUNT. This full-length life-sized portrait by Lowes Dickinson, was added to our collection by a subscription of members, when it was offered for sale by public auction at 'Dickinson's Gallery,' New Bond Street, in 1864. The full face of the gallant Sutlej hero, with his fair complexion, tinted cheeks, fine forehead, and grey hair, moustache, and whiskers, looks down upon the spectator from the picture that hangs over the mantelpiece in our Strangers' Room.

The Marshal wears the uniform of his rank, a scarlet tailed-coat with heavy gold epaulets, the right one being, however, covered with the long horseman's cloak lined with red which falls from the shoulder. The ribbon of the Bath crosses the chest from the right shoulder to the left hip, and the grand cross of the Order is on the left breast. He wears three medals or orders, one of which is probably that of the Knighthood of St. Patrick. A general's gold sash with heavy tassels is round the waist, and his left hand rests upon his sword-hilt, while the right hand presses his cocked hat against his thigh. His trousers are black, with broad gold-lace stripes. In the background on the right of the portrait are pitched several tents, in front of which is passing a guard of honour with colours flying; on the left is a syce or sepoy leading his charger.

Hugh Gough was born in Ireland in 1779, and entered the Army in 1794. He was present at the conquest of the Cape of Good Hope in 1795, and served under Wellington during the Peninsular war. For his successful conduct of the Chinese war in 1842 he was created a baronet, and appointed Commander-in-Chief in India. In the first Sikh war, with



a Governor-General (Sir Henry Hardinge) as his second-in-command, he won the great battles of Moodkee, Ferozeshah, and Sobraon in 1845, and in 1848, when the war was renewed, he again defeated the enemy at Chilianwallah and Goojerat. He was raised to the Peerage of the United Kingdom as Baron Gough in 1846, advanced to a viscountcy in 1849, and gazetted field-marshal in 1862. He died near Dublin in 1869. Lord Gough honoured the Club with his presence at a public dinner on April 9, 1850.

HASTINGS, FRANCIS RAWDON, MARQUESS OF. I have already given an account of this portrait, and the description of it, as set forth in the 'List of Pictures at Government House, Calcutta.'

He was born in 1754, a son of the Earl of Moira, to whose title he succeeded in 1793, but ten years prior to that date he had been created a peer, by the title of Baron Rawdon, for the services that he rendered during the American war. He afterwards served under the Duke of York in Holland, and in 1813 was appointed Governor-General of Fort William, in Bengal, and Commander-in-Chief of the British Forces in India. During his tenure of those high offices for a period of nine years he overcame the Nepaulese, the Pindarees, and other native powers, and rendered British authority supreme.

He was created Marquess of Hastings in 1816, and on resigning his Indian appointments on the score of bad health he was nominated Governor of Malta, but his illness increased, and he died at Naples in 1825. By his will he desired that his right hand should be cut off and preserved until the death of his Marchioness, and then be placed in the coffin with her. This request was complied with.



HASTINGS, THE RIGHT HON. WARREN. This portrait, by J. J. Masquerier, whose signature it bears, was presented to the Club in 1829 by Sir Charles Forbes, Bart., one of our original and most distinguished members. It is that of Mr. Hastings seated in a mahogany armchair upholstered in red. It is life-size and three-quarters in length. His coat is black, apparently with gilt buttons, his double-breasted waistcoat is buff, and his breeches and gaiters are brown. His necktie is of cambric. The face is full, and turned slightly to the right of the spectator. It is gentle and pleasing, closely shaven, and with a slight colour in the cheeks. The head is bald, except for patches of nearly white hair on either side. His two hands are held in front of the figure, and in the right there is an open letter. (Size, 4' 2" x 3' 4".)

Altogether, the portrait gives one the idea of a kindly, gentle, unassuming old gentleman; and yet there is something remarkable in the eyes. They are rather close together, and piercing, and apparently too young for the face in which they are set. On more than one occasion I have heard it remarked that they are 'foxy,' and that expression is by no means inapplicable to them.

In conception and design our portrait is very similar to that which exists in the National Portrait Gallery by Sir Thomas Lawrence, although it may be wanting in the colouring and finish of that unrivalled portrait-painter. In the same Gallery there is another portrait by Arthur W. Devis, which was formerly preserved in Government House, Calcutta. In this, Hastings is represented seated, the size of life, in an armchair. His attire is fanciful; the waistcoat is described as being patterned with small sprigs, but is really spotted like

a leopard's skin, and his stockings are of a blue-grey colour. His shirt-front wants starching, and his hands hang down as though they do not belong to him.

The story of the life, the successes, and the trials of Warren Hastings have so often been told that it is only necessary for me to recall to the reader's memory that he was born in 1733, and that in 1750 he went to India as a writer in the Company's service, on the Bengal establishment. There he remained for fourteen years, and after a furlough to Europe was appointed to the Council of Madras, and two years later President of the Supreme Council of Bengal. Hastings has frequently been styled the 'First Governor-General of India,' but that description is inaccurate.

He was appointed Governor of Bengal in 1772, and in the following year the title was changed to 'Governor-General of Fort William, in Bengal,' which was the designation of the Chief Administrator until 1834, when Lord William H. C. Bentinck became the first 'Governor-General of India.'

The first 'Viceroy and Governor-General of India' was Viscount Canning, who was so nominated in 1856.

Mr. Hastings came to England in 1786 to meet the charges of tyrannical and arbitrary government, of extortion and oppression, that were raised against him, and of which, after nine years' judicial proceedings, he was acquitted.

Even then he had to pay the cost of his defence, some 70,000*l.*, for which the Court of Directors partially indemnified him by granting him an annual pension of 4,000*l.* for life. He died in 1818.

John James Masquerier, who painted our portrait, was born of French parentage at Chelsea in 1778. His reputation was



*Warren Hastings Esq.*



made by a portrait that he painted of the First Napoleon. He died at Brighton in 1855.

JEEJEEBHoy, SIR JAMSETJEE, BART. In 1852 Lady Isabella Fitzgibbon wrote to our Committee that she had resolved to present to the Oriental Club the *magnificent* portrait of the Parsee baronet, painted for her brother, the late Earl of Clare. This generous offer was accepted, and the portrait forms one of our collection, but I do not know that it is magnificent in any other sense than that of being on a grand scale and gorgeously framed.

It is possible that, after the death of her brother, her ladyship found this portrait a somewhat cumbersome piece of household goods, and was glad to find it a home in the Club, where at that time there were many members who had been acquainted with the charitable and kindly gentleman of Bombay, whose generous hand bestowed vast favours not only on those of his own religious belief, but on the inhabitants in general of the great capital of Western India. Sir Jamsetjee was born in 1783, and his virtues and charity were first recognised publicly in 1842, when Her late Gracious Majesty was pleased to create him a Knight Bachelor, and in 1857 he was advanced to the dignity of a Baronet of the United Kingdom, there being a proviso in the Letters Patent that his successors in the title shall always take the same name. He died in April 1859.

It is a life-sized portrait of the baronet, dressed in the white robes and tall hat of a Parsee gentleman, seated in an armchair, and holding a letter in his left hand. He is a portly man, seemingly about fifty years of age, and his thin, trained moustache is quite black. At the breast there is a medallion,

believed to be a portrait of the late Queen. His right hand rests on the arm of his chair, and on that side is a table covered with a red cloth, on which is a roll of paper and an inkstand. He wears slippers with upturned toes, and a scroll partly unrolled is at his feet, and is inscribed, 'Plan of the Hospital founded by Sir Jamsetjee Jeejeebhoy, Bart.' A dark crimson curtain forms the background, but the light is admitted on the right of the picture, and displays a landscape. The complexion of the Parsee gentleman is exceedingly well defined, and the round face, with dark piercing eyes looking to the spectator's right, is said to be an extremely good likeness.

John Fitzgibbon, second Earl of Clare, K.P., G.C.H., for whom the portrait was painted, was Governor of Bombay from 1831 to 1835, but it seems probable that the work was completed some time after the conclusion of his administration.

In our list it is stated that the artist is 'unknown,' but that is not correct, for the picture has been engraved, and thereon it is mentioned that 'J. Smart' was the painter. It is not, however, easy to identify this gentleman, and I have not been able to trace his career in any biography.

There was a 'J. Smart' in India, a somewhat eminent miniature-painter, and a son of his also visited the country, but neither of these corresponds with our man, whose Christian name was John. All that I can say about him is that he appears to have represented on canvas several portly native gentlemen, and at the India Office, Whitehall, there is a full-length portrait of Eckbul-ud-Dowlah, of the royal family of Oudh, painted by him in 1838. In 1860, when the second



Baronet, son and successor of the original of our portrait, was in England, a copy of it was painted at his request by Mr. Eden Upton Eddis, then of Harley Street, whose death occurred in the present year. Mr. Eddis was born in 1812, and exhibited at the Royal Academy for fifty years in succession. He was a well-known artist, and specially celebrated for his pictures of children. It is said that towards the end of his life he had become the father of the Athenæum Club.

## CHAPTER IX

OUR PORTRAITS (*continued*)

IN the 'Dictionary of National Biography' it is mentioned that 'a portrait of Lake is in the Oriental Club,' as though ours was the only known picture of this distinguished General in existence, and until recent times that appears to have been the case. It is a life-sized full-length portrait, acquired by a subscription of members in 1848, and the painter is said to be unknown, a somewhat remarkable fact if the picture be unique. There is certainly another portrait in existence by Samuel Drummond (1763-1844), for I recently found an engraving of it by Ridley and Blood. It is of the General at a later period of his life in mufti.

GERARD LAKE, VISCOUNT LAKE, BARON OF DELHI AND LAS-WAREE (born 1744; died 1808), is portrayed nearly full-faced, but turned slightly to his left. It is the face of an intellectual, determined man. The forehead is broad, and the head is covered with thick iron-grey hair. The face is thin, the nose is long, and the jaws are long. The chin is pointed and clean-shaven.

The uniform is scarlet faced with blue, the lapels in front being turned back. He wears small epaulets, and six stripes of gold braiding on each sleeve. His breeches are of buckskin, with long spurred boots reaching to the knees. The

hand of the outstretched right arm holds his large cocked hat, while the left arm and wrist are doubled, and the fingers of the hand pressed against his hip are outstretched and turned upwards just above the sword-hilt. He has no orders or decorations, but wears a linen collar with a black stock, and the white frill of his shirt-front is displayed between the lapels of his coat.

The background is apparently the glare of a fire, and on the left of the picture is a rock.

A copy of this portrait was made in 1864, by Mr. J. R. Dicksee, for the Delhi Institute, and the original itself was exhibited at the Royal Military Exhibition in 1890, when a 'commemorative diploma' was awarded to the Club.

The subject of the portrait joined the Royal Foot Guards as a lad, and served throughout the Seven Years' War in Germany, and the campaign in America under Cornwallis in 1781.

He was afterwards, during 1793 and 1794, in Holland, where his gallantry and good leadership brought his name prominently before the public, and in 1800 he was appointed Commander-in-Chief of the British Forces in India. The defeat of the Mahratta Army and of the French General Perron, in 1803, the capture of Delhi, and the overthrow of Sindiah and Holkar, were the renowned successes of his career in that country; and in 1807 he returned home to be appointed Governor of Plymouth, but he had scarcely assumed his command when death removed him, in 1808.

LAWRENCE, STRINGER, MAJOR-GENERAL. In one respect he is like the viscount whose history I have just briefly recounted, in that he wears no orders and decorations, but his personality

is imposing, his uniform is gorgeous, and his record is eminent. If no title was added to his name, if no star dangled from his breast, it was not for want of good deserts, but simply for the reason that in his time orders of knighthood were few in number, and that honours were very rarely conferred upon the servants of the East India Company in the earlier days of its existence. I have on several occasions referred to General Lawrence in the course of this work, and have indirectly attributed to him the *raison d'être* of our Club; I certainly have a great regard for his round putty face, and his still rounder corporation, and for his magnificent attire, which must have cost him at least a quarter of his year's pay. For Lawrence lived at a time when service in India meant only hard work and hard blows; he came before those halcyon days when there was compensation in the shape of loot and gold mohurs for constant and severe fighting, such as was realized at a later period by his subaltern, Robert, afterwards Lord Clive; and Lawrence lived and died a comparatively poor man.

His portrait was presented to us by Mr. T. Snodgrass when the Club was founded.

It is a three-quarter-length picture of a fine burly man, with large abdominal protuberance, dressed in a scarlet uniform with blue facings, which are nearly hidden by the rich gold embroidery that covers them. The long buff waistcoat is also richly embroidered in gold down the front and round the pockets. He wears ruffles on the wrists, and a white cravat round the neck. From the right shoulder is pendant a single aiguillette, and the right hand rests upon a walking-cane around which is plaited a black ribbon and

tassel. The left hand clasps his sword-hilt. At the lower corner of the picture on its right is a domed building with gateway through which troops are marching, and in front of it is a squadron of cavalry, probably a guard of honour.

In reference to the half-length portrait of Lawrence in the Council Room of the India Office, to which I have already called attention, and which was painted by Sir Joshua Reynolds, Mr. William Foster, in his 'Catalogue of Paintings, Statues, &c.,' says that 'it shows a broad full face, with well-arched eyebrows, short, blunt nose, sensitive mouth, and double chin. The face has a peculiar whitish tinge, which appears to be due to the removal of the original varnish.'

This whitish tinge is noticeable in our portrait, and also in that by Thomas Gainsborough in the National Portrait Gallery, and I am inclined to think that the complexion of the General was of that description which I have already, and somewhat vulgarly, characterized as 'putty;' and the more so because the same whitish tinge is reproduced in an engraving inscribed 'Stringer Lawrence, Esq.,' which is, I believe, taken from the breast-plated picture in the India Office.

The description of the face in our portrait is very similar to that given by Mr. Foster. It is round and moon-shaped, and is turned slightly to the left of the spectator. He wears a grey wig.

I have already stated that the artist is not known, and I have offered my surmises as to the origin of the portrait; but I think that it possesses one peculiarity which may some day lead to its identification—namely, that the right hand, which rests upon a walking-stick, is either deformed or is in bad drawing.

That there is another picture in existence is recorded in our Minutes of Proceedings, for in 1839 Sir Joseph O'Halloran, one of our members, offered to the Club on the part of Captain Mangeon, R.N., a portrait of *his* relative, the late General Lawrence, which offer was gratefully declined, as we were already in possession of the one above described.

A copy of our portrait was made for our sister institute, the East India United Service Club, by Mr. W. M. Loudan.

Lawrence was born at Hereford in 1697, and after serving at Gibraltar and elsewhere in the 14th Foot, now the West York Regiment, had reached the rank of major in the King's Army when the East India Company selected him for the command of their forces in India, and he received a brevet from His Majesty, as already stated in an earlier part of this history. The operations under his command were chiefly conducted against the French on the coast of Coromandel, and ultimately led to the successful issue of the war. With the exception of a few months' leave of absence he held the appointment of Commander-in-Chief in India for twenty years, and finally retired from the service in 1766, on an annual pension of 500*l*. It is said that his circumstances were very limited, and that Clive, who had served under him as a lieutenant of infantry, generously came to his assistance. He died in Bruton Street in 1775, shortly after the death of his friend. His bust, by Taylor, is in Westminster Abbey; and in a corridor of the India Office is a somewhat fantastic marble statue of the old soldier, represented bareheaded and in Roman costume, holding a short sword in his right hand, which formerly stood in the General Court of the East India House, in Leadenhall Street.





*Major General Stringer Lawrence*



MALCOLM, MAJOR-GENERAL SIR JOHN, G.C.B. In other parts of this work I have referred at some length to our Founder, and will now confine myself to a brief description of our portrait by S. Lane, premising, however, that there is in existence an earlier portrait of him by George Hayter, which was probably painted from life, while ours, as already stated, was produced after his death. I have already pointed out that the Malcolm stock was good, and that the brothers were a fine stalwart set of men, and our life-size full-length portrait of Sir John depicts him as a fine specimen of a man, and a good-looking one too. The head is slightly inclined to his left, but we have nearly his full face, with well-cut nose, high forehead, kindly expression in the eyes, just a little whisker, and brownish hair. He wears a white collar with black stock, and his full-dress uniform of scarlet, with epaulets, black trousers, and gold stripes. From the left shoulder falls a long military black cloak, which is kept in its place by a cord and tassel fastened on the right breast, and which is also thrown over his right arm. The ribbons of the Bath and of the Persian Order of the Lion and the Sun cross his chest from right to left, and the stars of the Orders are on his left breast.

From his collar hangs a medal, and around his waist is the gold sash of a general officer, with its heavy bullion tassels dangling on the left side. His left hand rests on the hilt of his sword, with black scabbard and rich slings, which is held perpendicularly, and his plumed cocked hat is placed upon a stone on the spectator's right.

A statue, by Sir Francis Chantrey, was erected to the memory of Sir John in Westminster Abbey, and Colonel

Barnewall presented the Club with an engraving of the same in 1841.

The remains of Sir John were finally interred, as already stated, in Kensal Green Cemetery, and it is said that a tablet was also erected there setting forth his services, &c. I have made a very careful search for this tablet, but cannot find it anywhere. At the time of his death the only place where such a tablet could have been erected was above what are called the 'Old Catacombs,' but there is no sign of it. I noticed, however, that several of the marble tablets have crumbled into dust, leaving no mark of their having existed, except the slate frame which formerly surrounded them, and I imagine that the one erected to the memory of our Founder has disappeared with the lapse of time.

In the course of my wanderings in the Cemetery I came across several monuments to the memory of persons who have been or will be mentioned in this work.

There is an elaborate tablet to the memory of Sir William Knighton, Bart., G.C.H., Physician to George IV., and Keeper of his Privy Purse, who was formerly a resident in our Square. The profile of the baronet is cut into the stone above the inscription, and is surrounded with a wreath of laurel.

Another monument is in memory of one of our distinguished military members, to whom I have recently referred, Major-General Sir Joseph O'Halloran, G.C.B., of the Bengal Army, who served for fifty-three years, and died November 3, 1843, aged 79; and, again, the decease of a very distinguished civilian in the Honourable East India Company's Service, also a member of the Club, Neil Benjamin Edmonstone, F.R.S.,

M.R.A.S., is recorded on a tablet, together with that of his wife, Charlotte Anne.

MEHEMET ALI. In 1846, Mr. T. Brigstocke, the artist, wrote to our Chairman stating his desire to visit Egypt, and to paint a portrait of Mehemet Ali Pasha for the Club, but disclaimed all wish for any remuneration for the same. To travel comfortably in Egypt in those days it was necessary to have some sort of credentials, and these we were able to furnish to Mr. Brigstocke, as several of our members were well known to Mehemet Ali. In the result Mr. Brigstocke presented us with the large portrait which hangs over the staircase, in December 1849, but the members very naturally declined to accept a valuable proof of his art and labour without making him some return, and opened a subscription list, to which a good response was made.

Conjointly with ours, Mr. Brigstocke painted two other portraits of His Highness, which remained in Egypt, so that probably his visit to that country was not unremunerative.

Mehemet's person occupies only about one-third of the large canvas on which he is depicted, for he is seated, *à la Turque*, on an ottoman upholstered in red velvet. The left leg is doubled under the right one, which is bent at the knee. He wears black trousers and loose coat, and an embroidered undercoat which is crossed by a ribbon, apparently that of the Bath, though I am by no means sure that he ever had the Order, and on his head is the fez. The left hand rests on the side of the couch, while the right holds his curved sword, or scimitar, across his body. The background is a heavy red curtain, but the light enters on the spectator's right, and displays the domes and cupolas of an Eastern town, probably Alexandria.

At the foot of the picture lie several scrolls. The face is turned towards the spectator's right, and is that of a kindly, benign, grey-bearded old gentleman, which is scarcely characteristic of the actual man, who was a most terrible 'Tartar.' Size 8' 10" × 5' 11".

Mehemet Ali was born in Roumelia in 1769, the same year in which Napoleon Buonaparte and the Duke of Wellington came into the world, and was residing in Egypt and earning a living, some say as a camel-driver, and others as a tobacconist, when he married a middle-aged wealthy widow with one son. To this lady he remained attached all his life, and adopted her son, Ibrahim, whom I have already mentioned in this work, as his heir.

With the riches and position that he gained by this marriage he raised a large force, nominally in the name of the Sultan of Turkey, to withstand the invasion of the French, who at the end of the eighteenth century had virtually conquered the country and dispossessed the 'Beys,' governors appointed directly from Constantinople, who then ruled the land, of all power and influence.

In 1801 the French were driven out, and the Turkish Government was restored; not under the Turkish Beys, but in the person of Mehemet Ali. He ruled the land, but he had his troubles, the principal one being the constant threats of the force of Mamelukes, who had formerly been the bodyguard of the Beys, and the standing army of the country. But this kindly, benign gentleman was master of the situation, and, by curious wiles he decoyed his enemies into Cairo, and then he wiped them out—in fact, he massacred them wholesale. He assumed absolute power, and by his subsequent revolt against



the Sultan and attacks upon his territory so frightened that potentate that at last he was glad to make terms of peace with his intractable subordinate, and in 1841 nominated him Khedive, or hereditary Viceroy of Egypt, on condition of the payment of an annual tribute. Then he settled down quietly; but in 1847 his intellect became clouded, and his step and adopted son, Ibrahim, was appointed Regent. I do not understand that Ibrahim was ever actually Viceroy; he was simply Regent of the Viceroy of Egypt, and he died in 1848, before his stepfather, whose demise took place in August 1849.

He was succeeded by his grandson, Abbas, and he, dying in 1854, after a brief reign, was succeeded by his uncle, Said Pasha, son of Mehemet Ali, who visited England in 1862, and was invited in June of that year to a banquet at the Club, of which he was made a permanent honorary member. Through his equerry he wrote to our Committee 'that a badly executed likeness of his father (the late Mehemet Ali) is at present shown in the Egyptian department of the Great Exhibition, and expressed his wish that the Oriental Club would allow the portrait painted by Mr. Brigstocke to be exhibited in lieu of the one alluded to.'

The picture was sent, in accordance with the request of Said Pasha, and was in great danger of being permanently injured, as it was so placed that people sat with their backs against it. Happily the fact was noticed in time, and its locality was changed. It was exhibited at the Manchester Exhibition of 1856, and later on, at the request of Mr. Brigstocke, it was sent to the Paris Exhibition, but by some error arrived too late for admission. In this case, too, it suffered some damage, but the artist took it in hand, and made good all

defects before he returned it to the Club. A copy, in enamel, was made in 1864 by Messrs. Garrard, of the Haymarket, for the family of the Viceroy, Said Pasha, who died in January 1863, shortly after his return from Europe.

The title of 'Vali,' or Viceroy, conferred upon the founder of the dynasty, was discarded in 1866 for that of 'Khidêwi-Misr,' which has been corrupted to Khedive.

MUNRO, MAJOR-GENERAL SIR THOMAS, BART. and K.C.B. This portrait, by Reinagle (*q.v.*), was added to our collection by a subscription of the members. It is a full-length painting of the gallant officer in the full uniform of his rank, a scarlet tail-coat with blue facings, buttoned across the chest with an aiguillette on the right shoulder. The Order of the Bath is round his neck, and he wears a star on the left breast, and a medal with bar hangs from the lapel of his coat. His trousers are white, and tightly strapped under his spurred boots. Around his waist is the gold sash of a general, with its heavy tassels, and his sword, with an ivory handle and black scabbard, is ornamented with a rich knot. He holds his large cocked hat, with plumes of red and white, under his right arm, and in that hand he has a roll of papers. His left arm is upraised, and the fingers of the hand are extended.

The face is turned to his right, and is that of a good-looking man, but bronzed and careworn. He is closely shaven, but his hair is thick and grey and parted on the left side. In the background, on the spectator's right, is a pagoda or temple, and the entrance to a similar building appears on the left. Beyond lies a range of hillocks.

Born in 1761, the son of Mr. Alexander Munro, a merchant of Glasgow, the future General arrived in Madras in 1780 as

an Infantry cadet. He at once saw active service under Sir Hector Munro and Sir Eyre Coote, during the operations against Hyder Ali; and was again in military employment during the war against Tippoo Sahib and the siege of Seringapatam. After the fortress was captured he was nominated joint secretary with Major (afterwards Sir John) Malcolm to a commission appointed by Lord Wellesley to make arrangements for the future administration of Mysore.

As an administrator, Munro was a most able man, and his studies of, and reports on, the questions of land revenue and of land tenures have proved of the very greatest value to the Government of India. In 1819 he was made Governor of Madras, and held the appointment for seven years. During his tenure of that office, the first Burmese war broke out, and for the valuable aid and assistance that he afforded in the conduct of that campaign by forwarding troops and supplies from the base at Madras he was created a baronet. He died of cholera in 1827 while making a tour of the province.

In Government House, Madras, there is a portrait of Sir Thomas, by Sir Martin A. Shee, P.R.A., and also one of his wife, Jane, a daughter of Richard Campbell, of Craige House, Ayrshire, by Sir Thomas Lawrence; and an equestrian statue, by Chantrey, has been erected to his memory on the road between Fort St. George and Government House, Madras. I am told, too, that Sir Henry Raeburn painted a portrait which is in the possession of his descendants. Sir Thomas joined the Club in 1824, but he never could have entered it.

NOTT, MAJOR-GENERAL SIR WILLIAM, G.C.B. Born, 1782; died, 1845.

I have already mentioned that this portrait was painted by Mr. Brigstocke in 1844 in the brief period that elapsed between the final return of Sir William Nott to this country and his death.

This picture of a Welshman was regarded by the artist and by his fellow-countrymen of the Principality as the best work that he had ever produced ; and in 1866, at the request of the Chief Director of the ' Exhibition of the Art, Industry, and Products of Wales,' held at Chester in September 1866, our Committee allowed it to be exhibited, together with a portrait of Sir James Outram by the same artist.

There is, of course, a difference of nearly twenty years between the dates of these two pictures ; but still that of Outram was painted in 1863, and consequently sufficient time has elapsed for the colours to tone down, and for the surface of the varnish to have become smooth.

The two portraits hang opposite to one another over the staircase of the Club, and represent the originals in the full uniform of their rank, in accordance with the Queen's Regulations at different epochs. Nott wears the swallow-tailed scarlet coat, Outram the modern tunic. In the former the colour is soft and delicate, in the latter it is harsh and flaring, and one would scarcely imagine that the two pictures were by the same hand. It is quite possible, however, that the artist is correct ; that Nott is portrayed in the old coat that he had used for years, and that Outram, on his last return from India, covered with honours, had a brand-new uniform for the occasion.

But even that suggestion will not account for the waves of varnish that flow across the portrait of Outram, and that

seem to me greatly to detract from the value of a remarkable likeness. It is unnecessary for me to explain that I have no knowledge of Art, and that consequently my criticism is only the expression of a mere onlooker.

But to return to Nott. The figure is full-length, standing bareheaded, clothed in a general's uniform, with a long cloak suspended from the right shoulder, and black trousers with gold-lace stripes. He holds his sword, of scimitar shape, in a red velvet scabbard, across the body under the left arm, and clasped towards the lower end by the right hand. His decorations are the ribbon and star of the Bath and the Cabul medal. His face is turned to his left, and is very long, with long nose. He is shaven, with the exception of side whiskers.

Nott, who, with Sir George Pollock, brought to a conclusion in 1842 that sad episode in the history of India, the first Afghan war, was born in Glamorganshire in 1782, and was the son of Charles Nott, who combined the three industries of a farmer, innkeeper, and mail contractor. At eighteen he obtained a cadetship in the Company's Service, and was appointed an ensign on the Bengal establishment. In the very early period of his career he saw active service against the tribes on the west coast of Sumatra; but after that, for upwards of thirty years, he was employed chiefly on regimental duty, in the performance of which he was regarded as a most able officer, good organizer, and strict disciplinarian.

On several occasions, when there was an appearance of slackness in the command of garrisons and troops, Nott was deputed to proceed to the scene of disorder or irregularity, and always managed to restore order and discipline.



At length, in 1838, came his chance, when he was appointed to the command of the Army of Kandahar, and for the services that he rendered he twice received the thanks of Parliament. At the end of the war, in 1842, Lord Ellenborough nominated him Envoy to the King of Oudh, 'the situation of greatest dignity and emolument under the Government of India,' and presented him with a valuable sword in the name of the British Government. The Court of Directors granted him an annuity of 1,000*l.* for life, but he only enjoyed it for a very short time, as he died on January 1, 1845.

At Carmarthen there is another portrait of Sir William, also by Brigstocke, and a statue in bronze by Davies has been erected to his memory in that town.

The Town Hall of Calcutta has another portrait, and the India Office, Whitehall, as heirs-at-law and successors to the East India Company, possess a fourth picture by Benjamin R. Faulkner, which was presented in 1852 by Mr. Henry Wood, of the Bengal Civil Service, to the Military College at Addiscombe, where it used to hang by the side of that of his old companion in arms, the late Sir George Pollock, G.C.B.

OCHTERLONY, MAJOR-GENERAL SIR DAVID, BART., G.C.B.  
Born, 1758 ; died, 1825.

This full-length life-sized portrait, by Reinagle (*q.v.*), was added to our collection in 1836 by a subscription of the members. The conqueror of Nepaul is depicted in the full uniform of a general officer about to attend a levee, but from the accessories it may be presumed that he is at that moment in command of a force actively engaged with the enemy. He



wears the usual scarlet tailed-coat with blue facings and aiguillettes on the right shoulder, and black trousers with gold-lace stripes. The ribbon of the Bath crosses his body from right to left, and the star of a Grand Cross is on his left breast. The right arm is extended, and in the left hand he holds a drawn telescope. The face is three-quarters, and inclined to the right of the portrait; it is clean-shaven, and his grey hair appears under the cocked hat which covers his head, and which is surmounted by a gay plume of red and white feathers waving in the breeze. In the background, on the right of the figure, are troops in action, and on the left is exposed the breech of a dismounted gun, with several cannon-balls lying around.

Ochterlony was born at Boston, in New England, in 1758, a British subject, for at that time the United States formed part of the Mother Country. At eighteen he went to India as a cadet on the Madras establishment, and served with distinction throughout the Mahratta wars. He was for some time resident at Delhi, and on reaching the rank of Major-General, in 1814, he was given the command of a force to operate against the Goorkhas in Nepaul. In these operations he was completely successful, and as a reward for his services he was selected by the Prince Regent as the recipient of an honour which had never previously been conferred on a Company's officer—namely, that of the Knight Commandership of the Bath—with which dignity he was invested in grand durbar by the Marquess of Hastings on March 20, 1818. Subsequently he held several important posts in Central India, and was created a baronet in 1823; but he died at Meerut in 1825.

Photographs of our portrait were taken at the request of Mr. W. Digby Wyatt in 1866, but I do not find that it has ever been engraved. In the centre of the Esplanade, Calcutta, there is a column to his memory 165 feet in height, and from the galleries which surround the pinnacle a fine view over the city is obtained.

ODDH, KING OF. I have already mentioned this portrait in connection with that of Dowlat Rao Sindiah.

The father, Saadat Ali Khan, was only styled Nawab or Wazir of Oudh, and the subject of our portrait ascended to power also with that title, but during the administration of the Earl of Moira (Marquess of Hastings) as Governor-General of Fort William, Oudh was made an independent State, and Ghazee-Udeen the son was proclaimed King in 1818 with a long list of titles, amongst which was that of Shah-i-Zaman.

This is the same personage as that represented in the picture at Hampton Court, painted by R. Home, and presented by his brother, Sir Everard Home, which is inscribed 'The Shah Zumeen, King of Oude, receiving Tribute.'

OUTRAM, LIEUT.-GENERAL SIR JAMES, BART., G.C.B., K.S.I. Born, 1803; died, 1863. The original study by Mr. Brigstocke of the head of this gallant gentleman for the full-length portrait that was painted for the Club by a subscription of the members in 1863 is in the National Portrait Gallery, St. Martin's Place, for which it was purchased by the trustees of that Institution.

It is said by friends of the hero to be a remarkable likeness, but the face is nearly lost to view in the mass of black hair and of beard and whiskers that surrounds it. The portrait has been lithographed, and we have a copy in the Club, and

some small plates by Mr. Essex, an eminent enameller, were prepared and issued by Messrs. Hunt & Roskell.

James Outram was born at Butterley Hall, Derbyshire, in 1803, was educated at Marischal College, Aberdeen, and went out to India as a cadet on the Bombay establishment in 1819. His earliest active service appears to have been with the force acting under General Nott in the first Afghan war, and he was present at the recapture of Ghuznee in 1842. In the next year he was attached to the force under Sir Charles Napier, who had been appointed to the command of the troops on the Lower Indus, and gained considerable notoriety by his gallant though unsuccessful defence of the Residency at Hyderabad, Sind, which on the morning of February 15, 1843, was attacked by some 8,000 of the Amir's troops. It had to be evacuated, but Major Outram, as he then was, managed to join his small force to that of Sir Charles, and was present at the sanguinary battles of Miani and Dabo, the former of which was, it has been stated, the first action in which British troops used percussion caps instead of the old flint locks.

Outram was Resident at Oudh when the Persians seized upon Herat in violation of the treaty of 1853, and on the declaration of war was despatched to the scene of operations. He was successful in the conduct of the campaign, and on his return to India found himself in the midst of the great rebellion. How he succeeded Sir Henry Lawrence as Chief Commissioner during the terrible days of the Mutiny, and how he shared, with Havelock and Sir Colin Campbell, the glory of the relief of Lucknow, are facts inscribed in modern history that ought to be known to every schoolboy, and it is not necessary for me to enlarge upon them.

It rather becomes me to record what we knew of him at the Club, of which he was a constant and active visitor whenever he was at home. He was elected a member in 1843, and in 1852 we find an announcement that Lieut.-Colonel Outram has returned from India and has submitted two military caps for the inspection of the members. He did not pay a long visit, but in 1856 he comes home again, a major-general and K.C.B., and then he sends to us on trial two samples of German beer. He was before the age, or our taste was not sufficiently educated, for he is informed that 'the beer is not appreciated.' Shortly after that he must have hurried back to the East to command the forces in Persia and to perform his part in that great work of saving the Empire in the dire throes of the great rebellion. But for his innate chivalry, he might not only have accumulated to himself greater renown, but could also have detracted from the reputation of Havelock and other officers who had been bearing the brunt of an up-hill struggle when he returned to Oudh, for as Chief Commissioner of the Province he could at once have taken supreme command, but, following the example of a Governor-General in the Sutlej campaign, he waived his claims, and offered his services as a Volunteer to the gallant Havelock. Covered with honours, but broken in health, he was at home in 1860, when his portrait was painted, and after that he appears to have frequently travelled on the Continent until at length he died at Pau on March 11, 1863. A bas-relief by Noble, erected to his memory in Westminster Abbey in 1866, represents the meeting of Clyde, Havelock, and Outram at the Residency after the relief of Lucknow. He is buried in the Abbey and his remains lie close to those of Lord Lawrence and Lord Clyde.

But perhaps the fittest record of 'this faithful servant of England' is the equestrian statue by Foley, in Calcutta, of James Outram :

In all the true Knight,  
The Bayard of the East.

POLLOCK, SIR GEORGE, FIELD-MARSHAL, G.C.B., G.S.I., and a Baronet. It is clearly my duty to continue my narrative of the Club, and not to stray from the direct course, otherwise I might be tempted to dwell for a space on Outram, on Pollock, who were members of ours, and on another field-marshal, the late Sir John Fox Burgoyne, for I have met them all in my lifetime, and naturally the occasions on which I, as a lad, found myself at different times in the presence of three officers of such high position and reputation have impressed themselves upon my memory.

Sir George, at that time General Pollock, used to visit his old friend and chief engineer in the Afghan campaign, Sir Frederick Abbott, then Governor of the Military College at Addiscombe, and on three of his visits I was favoured with invitations to the house to luncheon or dinner.

He was then in his seventieth year, but he was still an active, well-set-up military man, with a good deal of black hair, and a somewhat long clean-shaven face, in which were two piercing eyes and a mouth of which the lips were very thin, and usually compressed. He had altogether a somewhat stern look, but he is said to have been a very kind and amiable man, and I recollect that when the two cronies were discussing over the mahogany the character of General Nott, whom, it was very clear, neither of them liked, his criticism was gentle and just. The Pollock medal, given twice a year to the most



distinguished Addiscombe cadet of the term, was founded in commemoration of Sir George's great services, and at the instigation of Sir Frederick Abbott he attended on more than one occasion at the College, and handed it in person to the fortunate winner.

The medal was transferred to the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich, after the dissolution of the East India Company.

My eldest brother, the late Major-General John Baillie, was an amateur artist, very skilful with the pencil. He had served with Sir James Outram in India, and on their return to this country they maintained their friendship and were both much interested in some sketches of the operations in Persia which Baillie designed from the particulars given to him by Outram. One of these sketches portrayed the charge of a Bombay Cavalry regiment on a Persian square ; and the mention already made of his sending to the Club two military caps reminded me of the great interest that he displayed in having the head-gear of the Persians correctly drawn. I remember that this sketch was published in the 'Illustrated London News.'

On one occasion we dined as Outram's guests at the Oriental, and on another he honoured my brother with his presence at the East India United Service, but even at that time he was a great invalid and a very small eater. He was thin and attenuated, and very reticent in company, but when interested in any subject he would brighten up and give his opinions decisively, though briefly.

It was female influence that brought me into contact, in my early manhood, with Sir John Fox Burgoyne. His wife was a daughter of Hugh Rose, of Holme Nairne, Scotland, and she was a relative and school-fellow of an old relative of



my own. Lady Burgoyne was exceedingly kind to me, and through her invitation to their house in Bayswater I happily came to know the General, who was equally kind and considerate.

Two of their daughters were already married into the Royal Engineers—the eldest, Margaret, to Colonel the Hon. George Wrottesley; and the second, Caroline, to Captain George Montagu Stopford. I knew these ladies afterwards, both of them bright, cultivated, intelligent women. Mrs. Wrottesley was a very clever musician and songstress, and used to compose her own songs. One of them, ‘The Postman’s Knock,’ had a great run in the ‘fifties,’ and would well bear resuscitation. The Wrottesleys had chambers or apartments in a house that formerly stood in the open space between the line of houses in Hereford Gardens and Oxford Street, and that abutted on to the stables of Camelford House (Lord Hillingdon’s), at the corner of Park Lane. It was a fine comfortable mansion, but it stood in the light of No. 1 Hereford Gardens, and prevented its being let, and so one day it was handed over to a firm of housebreakers, and in a very short time had completely disappeared, and an ornamental garden was laid out on the site. This topographical fact should more properly have been mentioned in my notes on Hanover Square, but it only came to my memory when I improperly wandered from my subject and began to write my reminiscences of great men. I humbly beg pardon, and return to our pictures.

Our portrait of Sir George Pollock, by S. Lane (*q.v.*), was painted by a subscription of members in 1848. This is the only picture of a ‘Gunner’ in our collection, and I wish that he had been depicted in the uniform of the Bengal Horse

Artillery, of which celebrated corps he was a Colonel-commandant. As it is, he appears in the red tailed-coat of a major-general on the Staff, with black trousers and gold-lace stripes, and spurs on his heels. The ribbon of the Bath crosses his chest, the star of the Order being fixed at the lower end ; while on his left breast is another star, and the Cabul and two other medals.

In his right gloved hand he holds the other glove, and also his plumed cocked hat, and his left hand rests upon the hilt of his sword, which has a red scabbard. The background is one of those terrible defiles, the Khurd Cabul or the Khyber Pass, into which a column of troops is just entering.

George Pollock was one of several sons of David Pollock, of Charing Cross, saddler to George III., and was born in 1786.

Like the Malcolms, the Pollocks must have been men of ability and grit, for three of them at least rose to high honours. David, the eldest, was Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Bombay, and was knighted ; Jonathan, the third son, was Lord Chief Baron of the Exchequer, and was created a baronet ; and George, the youngest, died a Field-marshal, Constable of the Tower of London, a baronet, and one of the first Knights Grand Cross of the Star of India.

He entered the Company's service through the Military Academy at Woolwich, for Addiscombe was not then acquired as a College, and he passed for the Engineers, but elected to join the Artillery, and went to India in 1803. His first active service was under Lord Lake, in the operations against Holkar, and he was present with a battery in the hard-fought action of Dig, and at the storming of the Fort. In 1824 the

first Burmese war broke out, and Pollock was ordered to Rangoon. In 1841 the rising at Kabul took place, and in the Afghan war he won his great reputation and fame. He succeeded General Nott as Resident at Lucknow, and on his return to England in 1846 the East India Company granted him a pension of 1,000*l.* a year, and the Corporation of London presented him with the freedom of the City. He died at Walmer in 1872, and was buried in Westminster Abbey.

There are several portraits of Sir George Pollock. One by Sir Francis Grant, P.R.A., is at the India Office, another in the United Service Club, a third at the Royal Artillery Mess, Woolwich ; but he seems to have preferred our picture, for in 1853 he asks the permission of the Committee to remove it for a short time, in order to get a likeness from it.

POTTINGER, LIEUT.-GENERAL THE RIGHT HON. SIR HENRY, P.C., G.C.B., and a Baronet. Born 1789 ; died 1856. Our portrait is the original painting by Sir Francis Grant, P.R.A., of which at least three replicas were made, and which has also been engraved by Mr. John Burnet, F.R.S. A copy of this engraving was presented to the Club in 1847 by Major-General Sandwith.

Sir Henry is in mufti, in black tailed-coat, trousers, and pumps, and wearing a black tie with the ribbon of the Bath across a white waistcoat, and the star of the Order on the left side. He is seated in a chair upholstered in red, with the right arm leaning on a table, on which is an inkstand and several maps, &c. He holds with both hands a MS., but for the moment his eyes are raised and are looking at the spectator. He is rather a good-looking man, in the prime of life, with black hair and a neatly trained black moustache.

The light enters from the right side of the portrait, and in the background is depicted a Chinese landscape, of which the most prominent feature is a tall pagoda.

The subject of this portrait was born at Mount Pottinger, Co. Down, Ireland, in 1789, went to India in 1803, and became an ensign on the Bombay Establishment in 1806. He saw no active service with troops until the Mahratta war in 1821, but he made a very adventurous and perilous journey into Persia through Beloochistan and Sindh, and published the results of his travels. He was Political Agent in the latter country for some years, and in 1840 was created a baronet and appointed Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to China. He was a strong diplomatist, and, as has been already stated, he made the peace of 1842, whereby Hong Kong was ceded to this country, and several other ports were declared open to British trade. The House of Commons voted him a life pension of 1,500*l.* a year, and successively he was Governor of the Cape of Good Hope and of Madras, but his health broke down in 1854, and he came back to England. He died at Malta on March 18, 1856, and was buried at Valetta. He was an uncle of Major Eldred Pottinger, C.B., who so heroically defended Herat from November 1836 to September 1837.

SUNKERSETT, THE HON. JUGGONATH, M.C. This small portrait, by Mr. E. F. Green, was presented to us by that gentleman's widow. In our list it is incorrectly entered as that of Sir Juggonath, but he was only 'the Honourable,' a prefix accorded to him as a Member of Council. He was a very wealthy citizen of Bombay, who founded a dispensary in that city for supplying medicine to the poor, and performed

many other charitable and beneficent acts. His loyalty was called in question during the Mutiny, but he died in 1865, at the age of sixty-three, highly honoured as the recognized representative of the Hindu community.

TIPPOO SAHIB. A Kit-Cat portrait, presented to the Club in 1848 by Mr. George William Gent, one of our members. It is an original portrait of our implacable enemy, painted by a native artist whose name is unknown. Tippoo, the son of Hyder Ali, was born in 1749, succeeded his father on the throne of Mysore in 1782, and until the Peace of Paris in 1783 waged war upon us, as his father had done, with the assistance of the French. For some years after that aid was withdrawn the 'Tiger of Mysore,' as he was called during his career of conquest, still cherished the hope of driving the British out of India, and was constantly fighting with them or with their allies. At length Lord Cornwallis compelled him to sue for peace, which was granted on humiliating terms, one of which was the surrender of two of his sons as hostages.

But he broke faith again, and the result was another and final war, when Seringapatam was stormed by the British and native troops, under the command of Lieut.-General George Harris (Lord Harris), and captured on May 4, 1799, the body of Tippoo Sultan being found under a heap of slain.

Tippoo is said by contemporary writers to have been fair-complexioned, with an aquiline nose and large black eyes, which emitted a cruel fierce light. He was somewhat corpulent, but looked every inch a prince, and was undoubtedly one of the foremost soldiers and most powerful antagonists whom we encountered in the conquest of India.



He was also a man of the most cruel and sanguinary character ; and his tastes were indicated by the barbarous instruments and toys found in his palace. One of the latter, a rough automaton of a tiger devouring a European, was for many years in the Museum of the East India House, and is now in the South Kensington Museum ; but presumably he must also have had more civilized tastes, for only last year there was sold at Christie's from the collection of Mrs. Bloomfield Moore for the sum of 610 guineas an oval jardinière presented to Tippoo by Louis XVI., and taken from the palace by the late General Richardson after the fall of Seringapatam.

WELLESLEY, RICHARD COLLEY, MARQUESS, K.G., K.P. Born 1760 ; died 1842. We possess two portraits of this distinguished statesman and diplomatist. They are both three-quarter length, and one by Dance (*q.v.*) was presented to the Club in 1833 by Mr. John Wilton, one of our members ; while the other was a gift made in 1841 by another member, Mr. G. de Sidenham, who states in the letter that accompanied it that it was painted in India in 1805 by Home (*q.v.*), and was presented by the Marquess himself to Mr. B. de Sidenham.

The former portrays the Governor-General seated in a red velvet armchair with a hand resting on each arm. He wears a black coat, knee breeches, and silk stockings, and below the knee of the left leg, to which point the picture extends, the Garter is visible. His white cravat is expansive, and below it appears the green ribbon and star of St. Patrick, of which Order the Marquess was an original member. The face is full, but turned slightly to the left of the portrait, and is clean-shaven. The eyebrows are well marked, but the hair



only consists of patches on the sides of the head of a brownish colour turning grey.

In the 'Descriptive List of Pictures at Government House, Calcutta,' to which I have already frequently referred, it is mentioned that Colonel R. Home, when he was in the Public Works Department, gave some interesting information regarding the pictures attributed to his grandfather, Mr. Robert Home, and stated that he painted one of the Marquess, full length, in August 1803, and probably another in February 1804. There are in Government House two full-length portraits numbered respectively 3 and 32, and in both cases it is stated 'possibly by Home,' to which words, with reference to No. 3, it is added 'who painted two full-length portraits of Lord Wellesley.'

It is well known that Home painted one full-length portrait of the Marquess, which is in Government House, Calcutta, and is probably that (No. 3) in which he appears wearing the robes of a peer over the Windsor uniform; but I have never heard of a second *full-length*, nor do I think that it follows from Colonel Home's statement that the second portrait was full length. My belief is that No. 32 in Government House is not by Home at all, but that the picture painted by him in February 1804 is that which we have in our collection, which is three-quarter length in Windsor uniform partly covered by the peer's robes.

The only thing that puzzles me is that in the description of the portrait in Government House it is stated that 'the hair is short-cut and white, probably powdered;' while in our picture the hair is rather long and grey, and brushed downwards from the top of the head. With this exception the

description of the full-length portrait in Calcutta corresponds very closely with that of our three-quarter length, and I think they must have been painted nearly at the same time.

It was as Earl of Mornington that the subject of this portrait assumed charge of the Government of India in the capacity of Governor-General of Fort William in Bengal in 1798, having succeeded in that office, after a short interregnum, Sir John Shore, afterwards Lord Teignmouth; but in the following year, after the capture of Seringapatam, he was created Marquess Wellesley, and thence arose in my school days some slight difficulties and intermingling of ideas regarding two great men bearing the same patronymic.

Sometimes the histories of India that we studied omitted to prefix the title or the military grade of the two brothers, and then as schoolboys we naturally gave the credit of any success in statesmanship or warfare to the Wellesley whom we knew and who was still living in our midst, Arthur, the Great Duke, quite oblivious of the great claims of his elder brother to similar distinction. Hence arose magisterial choler and scholastic inconvenience. Undoubtedly he was a great man, and perhaps more than all a great financier, for during his administration of the Government he raised the annual revenue of the East India Company from seven to fifteen millions. True it is that articles of impeachment were presented against him on the score that his expenditure had been enormous, and that his treatment of the native princes had been unjust, but the influence of the Court of Directors in the early years of the nineteenth century was a political factor in party formation, and the proceedings against him were withdrawn.

In his European career he was Ambassador to Spain, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland, and he died in 1842, having lived during the reigns of five sovereigns, from the end of that of George II. to the early part of the reign of her late Majesty.

WELLINGTON, ARTHUR WELLESLEY, DUKE OF, K.G., Field-Marshal, &c. Born 1769; died 1852. In April 1834 Sir Pulteney Malcolm proposed that a portrait of the Duke of Wellington be acquired for the Club by a subscription of its members. That proposal was seconded by Mr. Thomas Snodgrass, to whom I have already referred on more than one occasion, and was unanimously adopted.

Sir Pulteney shortly afterwards reported that he had not been able to find any good portrait of the Duke of which a copy could be made, but that he had been informed by Mr. H. W. Pickersgill, R.A. (*q.v.*), that the Duke was sitting to him for a portrait for Lord Hill, and that he would be pleased to paint one at the same time for our Club.

In this arrangement the Committee gladly concurred, and we are consequently in possession of an original portrait of the Duke, which has obtained some notoriety, as an engraving was made of it in 1840 by Mr. Wagstaff at the request of Mr. Pickersgill. Of this engraving we also have a proof, at the bottom of which is inserted the sign-manual of the Duke. This picture, which has the place of honour in our drawing-room, is a full-length and life-sized portrait in full scarlet uniform with a small epaulet on the right shoulder. The left shoulder is covered with the black cloak lined with white, which is held loosely round the neck and falls to the knees. The trousers are black, with gold stripes. He wears the blue

ribbon of the Garter, with the 'Lesser George' appended below, and the star on his left breast, and around his waist is the sash of a general officer. The right hand, gloved, hangs down and holds the glove of the left hand. In the left hand he holds a telescope across the body. The face, with slight whiskers, is turned to the right of the spectator, and his head is fairly well covered with grey hair.

On a rock to the right of the spectator is the General's cocked hat with red and white plumes, and on the left appears the head of a sepoy covered with a hat in which is fixed a white aigrette.

That I believe to be a fair description of our portrait, and, as regards its subject, it would be an impertinence on my part to attempt to add a word to the numerous histories and biographies that have depicted his noble character and traced his grand career; but I may be permitted to place on record this fact in connection with the Oriental Club, that the Great Duke was our first and only President.

With a description of that of the Duke I have summarized all the portraits of our collection; but we possess two oil paintings, one of which is of considerable historical interest. The other, entitled 'The Stag Hunt,' is stated in our catalogue to have been painted by Snyders, with the figures by Rubens, and was presented to the Club in 1897 by Mr. S. M. Keith-Douglas, one of our members.

Franz Snyders was born at Antwerp in 1579, and died in that city in 1657. According to Bryan's 'Dictionary of Painters,' he painted animals and hunts with surprising fire and spirit, and amongst them are several stag hunts, the most remarkable being in the Museum of Madrid. But with

regard to several of them the method adopted in their completion was the reverse of that employed in the case of our painting, for the landscape was by Rubens and the figures by Snyders.

In our canvas the quarry has been brought to the ground and the pack is worrying it. Two large brindled hounds are standing over the stag, one of them having it by the throat, while three others, one of them badly wounded, are in the foreground. The background will be the portion assigned to Rubens, for it contains several figures of the followers of the hunt, one of them apparently a lady on a grey palfrey.

The other painting which I have said is of considerable historical interest is 9 feet 2 inches by 7 feet, a very large canvas, which hangs over our staircase. It bears the following inscription: 'Surrender to Marquis Cornwallis of the sons of Tippoo as hostages for the fulfilment of the treaty of 1792. Painted by Mather Brown, 1793. Presented by O. C. V. Aldis, 1883.'

Mather Brown, according to Bryan's 'Dictionary,' from which I have previously quoted, was born in America about the middle of the eighteenth century, and came to England when quite young. Here he studied under his more celebrated countryman, Benjamin West, and is said to have exhibited his first picture at the Royal Academy in 1782. It is added that his art never reached any high standard, and in his latter days he became almost imbecile. He died in London in 1831.

Ours is undoubtedly the largest picture representing the surrender of the hostages, but is by no means the best or the only one, for the career of Tippoo Sultan, from his accession to the throne of Mysore to his death at the gates of Sering-



apatam, has formed the subject of the works of several distinguished artists. Perhaps the most celebrated of them was Sir David Wilkie, whose subject was 'General Sir David Baird discovering the body of the Sultan Tipu Saib after storming Seringapatam,' which was painted by desire of Lady Baird at a cost of 1,500*l.*, and was engraved by John Burnet; but Arthur William Devis (1763-1822) painted during his residence in India a picture entitled 'Lord Cornwallis receiving Tippoo Saib's Sons as Hostages,' which was presented to the Junior United Service Club in 1889 by Major H. R. Floyd, and was recently on view at the Earl's Court Exhibition. This, only half the size of ours, is, in my conception, much more delicately finished, especially as regards the correctness of the likenesses, than our huge canvas.

Nevertheless, Mather Brown's picture is rich in colouring and in its display of Oriental pomp and luxury.

Earl Cornwallis, for he was not then a Marquess, is, of course, the central figure, and holds by the hand the two young white-robed sons of the Sultan. On his left is a group of military officers in full uniform, amongst whom, according to our 'Key,' are portrayed, Sir John Kennaway; Major Dirom, Deputy Adjutant-General of H.M. Forces in India and Historian of the War and Siege; Colonel (Sir John) Malcolm; Major Madan, A.D.C. to the Earl; and Colonel Ross, the last three being members of our Club at a later date, and many others.

On the right of Cornwallis is the Oriental group of high officials in the service of the Sultan, with their numerous attendants, having at their back several elephants. The most prominent figure of this group is Gholam Ali Khan,



the head Vakil, who has just handed over his master's sons to the Earl; and in the lower corner of the picture is the bending figure of the second Vakil, who deposits at his Lordship's feet the tulwar and shield of the Sultan. Between the two groups, in the centre of the canvas, is a view of Seringapatam, depicting a mosque and an ancient Hindoo Pagoda.

In the prominent position which Gholam Ali Khan holds in this picture there is apparently an inconsistency; for he seems to be seated on a palanquin from which he has not alighted, or on a raised stage from which he has not descended, which naturally he should have done in the presence of the British Commander-in-Chief; but I believe that the representation is in accordance with historical fact, and that Gholam, having lost the use of his lower limbs, was carried to this great ceremony on a seat covered with silver, which he was accustomed to use, and which gave him, amongst the English, the name of 'Silver Chair.'

The 'spoiling' of the picture is in the full-length figure of Cornwallis himself. It is the portrait of a British farmer who has got out of bed very late on a hunting morning, has hastily drawn on his nether garments and boots, and has succeeded very badly in his endeavours to button his scarlet coat, rather than that of a Commander-in-Chief who is performing on the part of his Sovereign the exceptional and distinguished duty of receiving the acknowledgment of the defeat and subjugation of a powerful Prince.

The face and figure are coarse and vulgar, and are not at all such as are portrayed in other likenesses of the Marquess, or in the picture by Devis to which I have already referred.

We have an engraving of our picture, under which an inscription runs to this effect: 'To the King's most Excellent Majesty, this engraving of the Marquis Cornwallis receiving the Hostage Princes, Sons of Tippoo Sultaun, in view of Seringapatam, is with His Majesty's gracious permission humbly dedicated by his most dutiful subject and engraver Daniel Orme. Mather Brown, pinxt., Painter to their Royal Highnesses the Dukes of Clarence and York; David Orme, sculpt., Engraver to His Majesty and H.R.H. the Prince of Wales.'

This engraving was published on January 1, 1799, and there is a curious deficiency to be noticed in it. In our large oil-painting the Marquess wears below his waist a sash or cumerbund loosely knotted, but in the engraving this sash does not appear at all. Is it possible that the artist discerned some slight incongruities in the appointments of the chief figure, and added the sash at a later date after the picture had been engraved?

In the 'Key' it is stated that the hostages surrendered were the second and third sons of the Sultan, but Abdal Khalik and Muiz-ud-Din, who are the two depicted, were really the third and fourth sons. The treaty of peace sets forth that two of Tippoo Sultan's three eldest sons are to be given as hostages for its due performance, but it should have contained the word 'available,' for the eldest of the family, Fateh Haidar, was at that time a young man with a cavalry command actively opposed to us, and the second, Mohi-ud-din, the Sultan was not likely to surrender for the reason that he was the only legitimate child of his father. Consequently, the third and fourth sons were the two selected, and are represented in our picture.

In Government House, Calcutta, there are portraits of several of these Mysore princes painted at Seringapatam by Thomas Hickey, but the notes regarding them are all incorrect, as is usually the case in the 'Descriptive List.'

Prince Gholam Mahomed, eighth son of Tippoo, visited England in 1854, and was made an honorary member of the Club, as also was his son, Prince Feroze Shah, and his grandson, Prince Feroze Bukht, who accompanied him. He presented the Club with a history of Hyder Ali and Tippoo Sultan in one volume. Prince Gholam was for many years a pensioner of the Indian Government, and was created a Knight Commander of the Star of India. Prince Jama-ud-din, of Mysore, the eleventh son of the Sultan (altogether there were twelve), had been elected a member in 1838, and a very troublesome one he was. He had an unpleasant habit of taking off his stockings in the library and anointing a wounded leg, and he took his meals at all sorts of hours, and then quarrelled with the waiters whether he was to be charged for a breakfast, a luncheon, or a dinner.

I ought to mention also a present made to us in 1876, by Sir Donald H. McFarlane, formerly of Calcutta, and a member of the Club for the last thirty years, which consists of twenty enlarged photographs of Indian scenery that adorn our billiard-rooms. Talking of presents, I am reminded that, with the exception of paintings, busts, and books, our members have not been generous to the Club. We have one small silver snuff-box, the gift of a member, and a handsome silver candelabra, given to us by Mr. John Rutherford in 1880, on his completing fifty years' membership.

It is said of this gentleman that in early life he was

Secretary or Manager of a London Insurance Company, and was reported by their medical adviser to be so ill that he could not live six months longer. A director was anxious to obtain the appointment for one of his relatives, and so the board agreed to allow Mr. Rutherford to retire on a pension of 1,000*l.* a year, which income he enjoyed for about half a century.

An addition has recently been made which serves to ornament our entrance-hall—namely, a beautiful collection of buffalo and other horns from the Himalayas, presented by Mr. J. R. Baillie, late of the Bengal Civil Service.

Of our busts, probably the most finished is that of Sir Jamsetjee Jeejeebhoy, which was presented to the Club by the late Mr. R. W. Crawford, on several occasions Chairman of our Committee. The workmanship of all details is very delicate, even the fine needlework of the tunic being beautifully traced, and the medallion worn on the breast, as in the case of the portrait (*q.v.*) of this philanthropic Parsee gentleman is a finished likeness of Her late Majesty the Queen. This bust in marble was produced in the studio of the celebrated sculptor Baron Marochetti, and was one of his designs for the statue of Sir Jamsetjee, afterwards erected in Bombay.

Our bust of Lord Metcalfe (*q.v.*) is a plaster cast of that sent out to Calcutta to be placed in the Metcalfe Hall. The original was by E. H. Baily, R.A., and our copy was presented by our member Mr. William Butterworth Bayley in 1846.

The marble bust of Sir Thomas Munro (*q.v.*), by R. W. Sievier, was acquired by a subscription of the members in 1844.

Another bust, an original work by D. Brucciani, is of Major-General Sir H. A. Taylor, G.C.B., and was presented

to the Club in 1876 by his relative, Mr. G. N. Taylor. Sir Henry appears to have worn a rough untrained beard and whiskers, and this bust serves to show how difficult it is for a sculptor to portray in a natural form such hirsute appendages.

The plaster-cast of the bust of our distinguished member the well-known Indian civilian Sir Cecil Beadon was executed by Mr. E. E. Geflowski, who very politely requested one of our members, Mr. R. Pryce Hamilton, C.S.I., to accept it as a present to the Club.

Mr. J. Bailey was the artist of a bust, intended for the Delhi Institute, of General Sir Archdale Wilson, whose name will always be connected with that great capital of India, and presented us with the copy in our possession, which we value as a record of the membership of that gallant officer, and of the lively interest that he took in the Club.

To another member, Mr. J. M. Fisher, we are indebted for a bust of the Right Hon. Sir James Mackintosh; but I cannot now find it in the house, nor do our records give any information about it, except the fact of its presentation.

The marble effigy of Her late Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria was given to us at the Jubilee of her reign by the late Mr. Lindsay Nicholson, one of our most efficient and enterprising Chairmen of Committee; and we have also a plaster bust of Gerald Lord Lake, recently presented to the Club by the Rajah of Khetri, for whom the original was produced from a sketch of our portrait.

Amongst our engravings, in addition to some that I have already mentioned, we have those of our portraits of Clive, of Elphinstone, and of Pottinger, by F. Bartolozzi, R.A.,



Historical Engraver to His Majesty (1788), C. E. Wagstaff, and John Burnet, R.A., respectively; of Masquerier's portrait of Warren Hastings, by S. Freeman, published in 1815, from the original picture in the artist's own possession, and presented to us by Mr. W. T. Berners; of the statue of Sir Charles Forbes, Bart., by Chantrey, erected 'to the disinterested benefactor of the native inhabitants of the island, and the tried and trusted friend of the people of India, in token of esteem and gratitude by the native inhabitants of Bombay,' and presented to the Club by Mr. A. Heaviside in 1844; of the statue of Sir John Malcolm in Westminster Abbey, given to us by Colonel Barnewall in 1841; and of the portrait by E. F. Green of Major-General Sir Robert Henry Dick, K.C.B., K.C.H., who was killed, in the moment of victory, at the battle of Sobraon on February 10, 1846.

I must touch upon 'Our Library;' but I confess that I approach the subject with a good deal of hesitation.

It is comparatively small, even as a Club Library. It contains, I calculate, not more than 5,000 volumes, leaving out all books of modern reference, and it is not remarkable for any rare works or envied first editions. But it has this interest, that many of our shelves are filled with books written by members of the Club, some of them actually compiled in the Library, and presented to the Club by the authors themselves. Even these presentation copies are not unique, for in the days when the majority of them were published the authors would probably have made similar presentations to the Royal Asiatic Society, and certainly would have submitted copies to the great patrons of Asiatic lore, the Honourable East India Company.

Nevertheless, there is a slight sense of pride in a student



in our Library of, say, the recent Chinese question, when he takes from a shelf 'Miscellaneous Notices relating to China,' by Sir George Staunton (1829), with 'the author's compliments,' for he is a part-owner in the work, and in the kindly greeting with which it was presented; and so with Sir John Malcolm's works; with those of Sir Henry Elliot, containing on the fly-leaf the compliments of Lady Elliot; and of many other authors who all helped to complete the history of the conquest of India, and of its integration in the British Empire. But I have a very strong feeling that these works neither have been nor are sufficiently appreciated; that very little care is taken of them, and that very little credit has been given to the authors and donors. Time after time Committees have ordained that a special list of books presented to the Club is to be kept, but no such list is in existence; and frequently it has only been after repeated applications that the Library Sub-Committee has been assigned a small dole towards the expenses of maintenance and re-binding. Even the odd sovereign of the entrance-fee, which according to the rules and regulations is to be carried to the credit of the Library Fund, has frequently been diverted to other purposes, and the Committees have had to confess on more than one occasion to this breach of our laws, and to order its restoration.

Our old books were generally impressed, in one or two places, with rather a pretty stamp of an elephant and a palm-tree, and this would appear to the common mind to form a sufficient guarantee of the Club's rightful ownership of the work so marked, but in the more cultivated ideas of the Committee it was inadequate, and they devised a book-plate

very simple and remarkably ugly. They appear to have given instructions that this label, which simply indicates ownership and does not specify the place of the work in the Library, should be pasted into every book, old or new, quite regardless of any earlier plate or of any complimentary words of dedication. Hence arise certain inconsistencies.

Let me give an example :

‘A Picturesque Tour along the Rivers Ganges and Jumna, in India, consisting of twenty-four highly-finished and coloured views, by Lieut.-Colonel Forrest, late on the Staff of His Majesty’s Service in Bengal,’ published in 1824, was one of the earliest presents made to the Club, and is a rare and extremely interesting work, for the art of colouring, especially in foliage, which is employed in its embellishment has apparently died out. On the inner side of the binding we have our ‘plate’ with this statement : ‘This volume has been added to the Library by the Committee ;’ and on the fly-leaf in ink faded with age is written : ‘Presented to the Library of the Oriental Club by Captain George Steell.’

‘Oriental Drawings, sketched between the years 1791 and 1798, by Captain Charles Gold, of the detachment of Royal Artillery serving in India at that period,’ published in 1806, is another scarce and highly interesting book, with a number of coloured sketches of natives of all classes, and of buildings in the Madras Presidency. It contains a very pretty autographic dedication by the artist, then Colonel Gold, dated from Greenwich, 3 Crescent, November 1, 1828, in which he ‘expresses his best respects to the members of the Oriental Club, and his hopes that this volume of sketches, his amusement as a subaltern, many years since, in Southern India may be worthy of a place in their Library.’

This gift is also stated to have been added to the Library by the Committee.

Making every allowance for the monotonous character of the work of pasting a label into every book of our Library—a work probably performed by some person without the faculty of discrimination—nevertheless, I conceive that there is a *suppressio veri* in thus assuming as having been acquired by the Committee a number of volumes which were generously presented to the Library by members of the Club.

I have already said that I approached the subject of 'The Library' with hesitation, and, if I have written somewhat strongly, it is because I feel that our collection of books does not receive that care and attention to which it is entitled.

In the middle of last century the rooms were closed for one morning in every week so that the books might be dusted and properly arranged, but in the new century I have had to consume much more than my natural ration of dirt in making a perfunctory examination of many of our treasures.

A great want, too, is a catalogue. In 1874 Mr. John Rutherford, to whom I have already referred, presented the Club with a printed catalogue which was of some value, but that has given place to a beautifully bound and highly ornamented manuscript which is utterly useless.

In 1879 five hundred copies of a 'Report of the Library Committee' were printed and circulated, but I have been unable to obtain a copy; and in the same year a distinguished member, General Sir Henry L. Thuillier, C.S.I., than whom no one could be more competent, for he was formerly Surveyor-

General of India, made a most valuable report on the number of and condition of our maps and plans.

In verifying some of the dates in this present history I have had frequently to refer to the Indian almanacs included in our Library. On the first page is generally printed, 'A Perpetual Register by which may be found the day of the month in any year from 18— to 1904.' Such a register is frequently inserted in modern almanacs, but the one to which I refer is that of the year 1830, and it has a footnote which explains that after finding in one table the Dominical or Sunday Letter for any specified year, you are to refer to another table, where above the same letter are placed the days of the month for every Sunday in that year. Curiosity induced me to apply the above instructions to the present year, 1901, and to my surprise I found that all the dates are those of Saturdays instead of Sundays; and then, proceeding to the year 1902, I further discovered that the dates worked out will be those of *Friday* instead of Sunday throughout the year. The inaccuracy may be due to the omission of leap year in 1900, but that that omission would take place was already known in the sixteenth century, and therefore ought to have been taken into account in preparing a 'Perpetual Register.' Perhaps some scientist, or the universal 'Whitaker,' may enlighten my ignorance, and help me to account for the above discrepancy.

It was noticed in 1860 that we had only one copy of the Bible, which, being in four volumes, was rather cumbersome, and a member therefore presented us with a more convenient copy in one volume.

In 1901 there is a frequent demand for the Holy Book,

which is most useful in the solution of aerostics, but again it is found that the only one in the Library is the large one.

Our present Chairman has now supplied the defect. But did the former one wear out in thirty years?

A search amongst the books themselves would, however, to some extent reward the student. For instance, we have a copy of 'The Administration of Scinde,' by Sir William Napier, annotated by General John Jacob, the determined opponent of Sir Charles Napier, the conqueror of Scinde. which, I think, must be unique. Then, again, there is a very searee work, by the Marquess Wellesley, regarding the Mahratta war of 1803-4; and another, in two volumes, entitled 'Memoirs of the Late War in Asia,' published in 1788 by an officer of Colonel Baillie's detachment.

A very interesting contrast between the present and past condition of the country is offered in a work entitled 'Illustrations of Japan, consisting of Private Memoirs and Anecdotes of the Reigning Dynasty of the Djo-gouns, or Sovereigns of Japan, with coloured plates,' published in 1822 by M. Tilsingh, Chief Agent of the Dutch East India Company at Nagasaki; and we also possess a very complete copy of 'Marco Polo's Travels,' presented to us in 1828.

With the above brief remarks on the contents of our Library I bring to a conclusion this monograph; and I venture to offer my apologies to any authors upon whose works I may have drawn in the course of its preparation without having acknowledged the sources of my information.

*Long Life and Continued Prosperity to*

THE ORIENTAL CLUB!





# APPENDIX

## ORIENTAL CLUB.

At a meeting held at the House of the Royal Asiatic Society, February 24, 1824—

Resolved: That it appears to this Meeting to be desirable to form a Society on the plan set forth in the following Prospectus, to be called the ORIENTAL CLUB.

### PROSPECTUS.

The Oriental Club will be established at a house in a convenient situation.

The utmost economy will be observed in the whole establishment, and the subscription for its foundation and support shall not exceed 15*l.* entrance and 6*l.* per annum.

There will be a commodious Reading-room, with newspapers and periodical publications, and it will be a particular object to have those from every quarter of the East up to the latest dates. A Library will be gradually formed, chiefly of works on Oriental subjects.

The Coffee-room of the Club will be established on the most economical principles, similar to those of the United Service and Union.

There will be occasional House dinners.

The qualifications for members of this Club are—Having been resident or employed in the public service of His Majesty, or the East India Company, in any part of the East; belonging to the Royal Asiatic Society, being officially connected with the administration of our Eastern Governments abroad or at home.

The objects of the establishment are—First, to give to persons

who have been long resident abroad the means of entering, on their return, into a society where they will not only associate daily with those they have before known, but have an opportunity of forming acquaintance and connections in their own country ; secondly, to give to those who have resided or served abroad the easy means of meeting old friends, and of keeping up their knowledge of the actual state of our Eastern Empire, by personal intercourse and friendship with those recently returned from scenes in which they have once acted ; thirdly, giving to all persons who are solicitous of information regarding the past and present condition of the East, to those who are officially connected with our Governments abroad, and to all persons who are desirous of improving their knowledge and strengthening their personal ties with that quarter, additional means of accomplishing these ends.

The British Empire in the East is now so extensive, and the persons connected with it so numerous, that the establishment of an institution where they may meet on a footing of social intercourse seems particularly desirable. It is the chief object of the Oriental Club to promote that intercourse, and to maintain and improve the principle so happily established by the formation of the Royal Asiatic Society, of associating as much as possible those who have resided or served in the East with persons who from any cause take an interest in that quarter of the globe.

Resolved: That the following gentlemen do constitute the Committee:—

His Grace the Duke of Wellington,  
K.G., &c., President.

The Right Hon. Lord William C.  
Bentinck, G.C.B.

The Right Hon. Charles Williams-  
Wynn.

General Sir Alured Clarke, G.C.B.

General Sir George Nugent, Bart.,  
G.C.B.

Lieut.-General Sir Thomas Hislop,  
Bart., G.C.B.

Lieut.-General Sir Miles Nightingall,  
K.C.B.

Vice-Admiral Sir Richard King, Bart.,  
K.C.B.

Vice-Admiral Sir Pulteney Malcolm,  
K.C.B.

Major-General Sir John Malcolm,  
G.C.B., K.L.S., &c.

Major-General Sir Patrick Ross.

Sir George Staunton, Bart., M.P.

Sir Charles Forbes, Bart., M.P.

Sir Robert Farquhar, Bart.

Sir Christopher Cole, K.C.B.,  
M.P.

Major-General Malcolm Grant.

Major-General Robert Haldane, C.B.,	Colonel Robert Houstoun, C.B., 6th
Colonel 26th Bengal N.I.	Bengal Light Cavalry.
Rear-Admiral Lambert.	Colonel Hull.
Major-General Rumley.	A. Macklew, Esq.
Colonel Baron Tuyl.	Colonel Nugent.
Colonel Alston.	C. E. Pigou, Esq.
Colonel Baillie, M.P.	Colonel Ranken.
Alexander Boswell, Esq.	Colonel George Raban, C.B.
David Colvin, Esq.	J. G. Remington, Esq.
Major Carnac.	Thomas Snodgrass, Esq.
N. B. Edmonstone, Esq.	William Sotheby, Esq.
John Elphinstone, Esq.	William H. Trant, Esq.
Major Harding, Esq.	Henry Saint George Tucker, Esq.
James Hallett, Esq.	J. Ruddell Todd, Esq.
D. Hemming, Esq.	Colonel Weguelin.

That the members of the Royal Asiatic Society, the Bengal, Madras, Bombay, India, and China Clubs be invited to join the Oriental Club as original members.

That all persons who have served the King or Company in the East, who have resided or travelled, or whose official situations connect them with that quarter of the globe, be considered eligible to become members.

That the Committee have the power of electing any candidate as an original member, who may be eligible as above, until the number of 400 shall be completed, such candidate being recommended by three of the present Committee, one on personal knowledge.

That, as soon as the names of 400 members shall have been enrolled, a general meeting be called to arrange the permanent establishment of the Club.

It is at present intended that the number of members shall not exceed 600.

SIR,—Agreeably to the annexed resolutions, you are requested, should you be desirous of becoming an original member of the Oriental Club, to signify the same by letter, addressed 'To the Committee,' at No. 14 Grafton Street, on or before Saturday, March 20.

14 Grafton Street, Bond Street, March 1, 1824.

## COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT, 1901-1902.

BATTEN, G. H. M., Esq. ( <i>Chairman</i> ).	HENRIQUES, F. G., Esq.
ANDERSON, JAMES, Esq.	JOHNSON, A. R., Esq.
BEST, A. V. DUNLOP, Esq.	LEECHMAN, C. A., Esq.
BLAKE, A. P., Esq.	MURDOCH, JAMES, Esq.
BOYSON, J. A., Esq.	OSWALD, PERCY, Esq.
CUMBERLEGE, F. H., Esq.	RUTTER, ALGERNON, Esq.
DAVIES, J. D., Esq.	SHAW, W. S., Esq.
DENT, SIR ALFRED, K.C.M.G.	WARD, ALEX., Esq.
FIELD, G. P., Esq.	WILLIAMSON, R., Esq.

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 CRAWFORD, R. L., Esq.  
 LEIGH, C. E. AUSTEN, Esq.

## AUDITORS.

BLACKHALL, W. S. D., Esq.  
 CAMPBELL, ROBERT, Esq.

## SECRETARY.

PRATT-BARLOW, C. J., Esq.

## PERMANENT STAFF.

*House Superintendent.*

MR. GEORGE SMITH.

*Houskeeper.*

MRS. EMILY SCORE.

*Secretary's Clerk.*

MR. GEORGE MIDDLEMASS.

*Coffee-Room Clerk.*

MR. SAMUEL SHELLY.

*Chef.*

MONS. J. B. REYNAUD.

*Butler.*

MR. JOHN CUNNINGTON.

*Head Waiter.*

MR. W. PALMER.

*Head Waiter, Strangers' Room.*

MR. A. CLOSE.

# COLLECTION OF PORTRAITS AND PICTURES IN THE ORIENTAL CLUB

DONORS	SUBJECT	ARTISTS
Mr. Warden and Mr. Williamson Ramsay Subscription of Members	Lieut.-Colonel Robert Barnewall Sir James Rivett Carnae, Bart.	Robert Home H. W. Pickersgill, R.A.
Earl of Powis . . . Colonel Robert Close . .	Lord Clive . . . Major-General Sir Barry Close, Bart.	Nathaniel Dance — Moore
Mrs. Charles Skirrow . . Mr. Thomas Snodgrass . .	Sir Herbert A. D. Compton Lieut.-General Sir Eyre Coote, K.B.	R. R. Reinagle. Unknown
Subscription of Members Mr. Richard Strachey . . Subscription of Members	Marquess Cornwallis, K.G. . Dowlat Rao Sindhia . . . Right Hon. Mountstuart Elphinstone	Samuel Lane Robert Home H. W. Pickersgill, R.A.
“ “ “ Sir Charles Forbes, Bart. “ “ “	Field-Marshal Viscount Gough Marquess of Hastings, K.G. The Right Hon. Warren Hastings	Lowes Dickinson Samuel Lane J. J. Masquerier
Lady Isabella Fitzgibbon Subscription of Members Mr. Thomas Snodgrass . .	Sir Jamsetjee Jeejeebhoy, Bart. Lord Lake . . . . . Major-General Stringer Lawrence	John Smart Unknown “
Subscription of Members Mr. T. Brigstocke . . . Subscription of Members	Major-General Sir John Malcolm, G.C.B., K.L.S. Mehemet Ali . . . . . Lord Metcalfe, K.C.B. . . .	Samuel Lane T. Brigstocke F. R. Say R. R. Reinagle
“ “ “ “ “ “ “ “ “	Major-General Sir Thomas Munro, Bart., K.C.B. Major-General Sir William Nott, G.C.B. Major-General Sir David Ochterlony, Bart., G.C.B.	T. Brigstocke R. R. Reinagle.
Mr. Richard Strachey Subscription of Members	Nawab of Oudh . . . Lieut.-General Sir James Outram, Bart., G.C.B.	Robert Home T. Brigstocke
“ “ “ “ “ “	Field-Marshal Sir George Pollock, G.C.B., C.S.I. The Right Hon. Sir Henry Pottinger, Bart., P.C., G.C.B.	Samuel Lane Sir Francis Grant, P.R.A.

## The Oriental Club

DONORS	SUBJECT	ARTISTS
Mrs. E. F. Green . .	The Hon. Juggonath Sunkersett, M.C.	E. F. Green
Mr. George W. Gent .	Tippoo Sahib . . . .	Native artist, name unknown
Mr. John Wilton . .	The Marquess Wellesley, K.G., K.P.	Nathaniel Dance
Mr. G. de Sidenham .	The same, in Peer's robes .	Robert Home
Subscription of Members	Field-Marshal the Duke of Wellington, K.G., &c.	H. W. Pickersgill, R.A.
Mr. S. M. Keith Douglas	The Stag Hunt . . . .	Franz Snyders
Mr. O. C. V. Aldis . .	Surrender to Marquess Cornwallis of the sons of Tippoo as hostages for the fulfilment of the Treaty of 1792	Mather Brown

## BUSTS

DONORS	SUBJECTS	ARTISTS
Mr. C. J. Lindsay-Nicholson	Her late Majesty Queen Victoria	J. R. Morris
Mr. R. Pryce Hamilton, C.S.I.	Sir Cecil Beadon . . . .	E. E. Geflowski
Mr. R. W. Crawford .	Sir Jamsetjee Jeejeebhoy .	Baron Marochetti
H.H. the Rajah of Khetri	Gerald Viscount Lake . .	Unknown
Mrs. William Butterworth Bayley	Lord Metcalfe . . . .	E. H. Baily, R.A.
Subscription of Members	Sir Thomas Munro . . . .	R. W. Sievier
Mr. G. N. Taylor . . .	Sir Henry A. Taylor . . .	D. Brucciani
The Artist . . . . .	Sir Archdale Wilson . . .	J. Bailey



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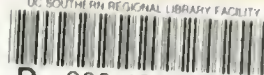
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